"Irene" Takes 6

Jack McGowan — aka Irene — one of the more outspoken members of the Gay community, experienced the wrath of numerous City Hall aides this week for his comments on Dolores Park violence. week for his comments on Dolores Park violence. McGowan — for years a prime mover in the Community Softball League and a participant in countless Gay community charities and benefits — was quoted in the San Francisco Examiner that if the authorities couldn't stem the tide of violence, he personally would lead a contingent into the area and solve the problem with baseball bats.

McGowan's remarks were immediately translated as racist and provocation for the Latin youths to arm themselves. He was berated by members of the Mayor's newly-formed Racial Peace panel. The day before the Dolores Park gang beatings (Sunday, Nov. 8) where two men were severely beaten and one stabbed repeatedly with a screwdriver, the Mayor appointed 31 minority personalities to the Intergroup Clearing-

house. Police Commissioner Jo Daly, a member, told B.A.R. when we called to ascertain who were the Gay males on the panel that they were not looking for high profile political types. Three names were given as Gay males.

were given as Gay males.

McGowan, who has lived in San Francisco since 1946, has been a long-time resident of the Dolores Heights/Castro area. His lover of over 30 years is Latin — said what triggered his remarks were comments from Dianne Feinstein and Carol Ruth Silver. He said, "Those two quotes really hurt me." He said the Feinstein comment that the attacks weren't Gay oriented "was the most foolish statement — what difference does that make." He added, "I expect anything from her," but was thrown by Silver's inference that the fault somehow lay with "us because we didn't understand the family and background."

This week even after con-certed pressure, McGowan re-fused to back down on his (Continued on Page 2)



Carl Hill (2nd from right), who has arrived to test INS policies, speaks at last weetee meeting. (Photo by Rink)

INS Victim Gets Active In Local Affairs

by Konstantin Berlandt

Carl Hill spoke to the newly incorporated Lesbian/Gay Parade Committee Sunday at the Women's Building urging some reconciliation between competing forces hoping to produce next year's Gay Freedom Day parade and celebration.

Hill, who was stopped at San Francisco Airport by Immigra-tion officials when he attempt-ed to visit here a year and a half ago to march with and cover the '79 Gay Freedom Day parade, returned to San Francisco the day after the national election to contest again the Carter Administration's travel ban on alien homosexuals.

Hill and his lawyer Jeff Appleman of Gay Rights Advocates were successful in court last week in overturning the stance of the Immigration Department, although Carl will remain in the city for the government's appeal of that decision already in the works.

Obviously referring not only to the Parade Committee but also to his legal advocates, GRA, Hill said upon his return to San Francisco (after marching at the front of the '79 parade) he has been confronted with much in-fighting going on here. "It is a shame that one carries one's politics to the point where it splits groups that (Continued on Page 4) (Continued on Page 4)

Armstrong Unanimous

CRIR (Concerned Republi-cans for Individual Rights), held their election of officers this week at MCC on Eureka Street. Attorney Duke Armstrong was elected president by acclama-

tion. CRIR, one of the fast-growing Gay political clubs, has more than doubled its membership in the past year. Its roster now stands at 160, as com-(Continued on Page 2)



Attorney Duke Armstrong, CRIR's new president

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

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"Irene"

statements. "If we're not going to get protection," McGowan repeated, "we are certainly willing to protect our brothers and sisters if we have to.

"I want people to explain to me why we have to negotiate on the level because we are Gay — negotiate for protection." One City Hall aide read to McGowan a list of youth demands of the Gay community as the price to stop the violent stabbings and beatings. "They tried to put me on a guilt trip," the colorful McGowan said, "tried to make me ashamed of what I said."

"I have no political ambitions; I am concerned — not with myself — but with my young Gay friends. I am not afraid of anyone and we're not afraid of confrontation. We have to show these kids we will have to show these kids we will not be intimidated

Henry Smith, McGowan's Henry Smith, McGowan's lover who was born and raised in the Mission, commented, "I've lived here all my life, and I've never seen things going on as they are now."

At week's end McGowan was in no mood for concili-ation. In addition to a rash of ation. In addition to a rash of intimidating phone calls, he had been chided by City Hall aides for not attending a meeting of the "peace panel" he had not been invited to. "I don't intend to let it sit. My best friend died as a result of a beating this summer on Noe Street. If the thugs won't stop it, if Feinstein and her boys can't stop it, we will..."

Meanwhile, the meetings go on. This week Supervisor John Molinari got involved. He, with newly-elected Supervisor Richard Hongisto, met this week with representatives of various Gay organizations. Much of the input as characterized by Stonewall Gay Democratic Club president Gerry Parker was that violence had reached epidemic levels in the southeastern parts of the city and that ostrich-like Dianne Feinstein refused to come to grips with the breakdown in law and order.

Elects New Officers

(Continued from Page 1)

pared to over-a-year-ago membership of 60. Outgoing president Kevin Wadsworth said that for a 2½ year old active club their growth has been remarkable. "The Club," he said, "has become important both in Republican circles and in Gay community affairs

Joining Armstrong's administration will be Paul Johnson as 1st VP, Dominica Waiko Leung 2nd VP, Treasurer Alan Grant, Corresponding Secretary Tom Isenberg, Recording Secretary Walt Fraker.

The new Board of Directors includes David Anderson, Jim Bourgart, Frank Crosetti, Bruce Decker, Gary Myerscough, Henri Leleu, Claude Gadbois, Gordon Bloxer and Pat McGonigle.

Armstrong has been active in various campaigns over the past few years — including Quentin Kopp's, Phil Moscone's, and Dennis McQuaid's.

In addition, he has been a moving force in the San Francisco Street Monitors who have worked in numerous crowd situations from the Gay Freedom Day Parade to the Castro Street Halloween throng. The activist attorney is also chairman of the Hayes Valley Citizen Advisory Committee and a director of the Haight/Fillmore Neighborhood Association.

Armstrong will stress party unity lafter a season of political squabbling over the presidential election — CRIR did not endorse Reagan) so that the club can move forward on Gay issues and local concerns of the membership. membership.

Another of Armstrong's goals will be to recruit new members and to increase the club's impact. He feels that with not too much work CRIR could become the largest Republican club in the city. club in the city.

Army Loses

Gay Is No More **Security Risk**

ACLU Brings In Major Victory

Last week the U.S. Army conceded it acted improperly in stripping Warren G. Preston, a Peninsular graphics designer, of his government security clearance for admitting he was

The Army has agreed in an out-of-court settlement to pay Preston and the ACLU \$10,000 each and to notify his employers, GTE Sylvania in Mountain View, that it made a mistake in March 1979 when it away his clearance

The ACLU, who filed suit for Preston in U.S. District Court, said that the Army also agreed not to discriminate against Preston if he reapplies for security clearance and that the Army must redraw its regulations to specifically state that homosexuality alone is not sufficient reason for denying clearance on government contracts

Preston had held his top, top Preston had held his top, top secret clearance for 12 years with GTE Sylvania. He admitted his Gayness so that he couldn't be blackmailed; in turn the Army stripped him of his SCI clearance because he was then found to be "unreliable, untrustworthy and unsuitable."

As a result, Preston was demoted from his sensitive work to part-time status.

In a *Chronicle* by-lined article the ACLU made additional observations:

The ACLU said the settlement means the Army must set up formal appeals procedures for any civilian working under government contract, homosexual or not, whose clearance indexidations and the settlement of the s is denied or revoked

Army must now send out notice that engaging in legal homosexual acts is not, by it-



Warren G. Preston no security risk U.S. finally admits.

self, sufficient reason to be denied security clearance

The general rule the Army used to deny Preston his clearance, the ACLU said, says that persons eligible for such clearance "must be stable, of excellent character and discretion, and not subject to undue influence or duress through exploitable personal conduct." able personal conduct.

That regulation states that "sexual conduct can be a relevant consideration in circumstances in which the conduct indicates in which the conduct indicates a personality disorder or could result in exposing the individual to direct or indirect pressure because of susceptibility to blackmail or coercion as a result of the deviant sexual behavior."

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E To All Pe Pilgrims

Inasmuch as the great Father has given us this year an abundant harvest of Indian corn, wheat, beans, squashes, and garden vegetables, and has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and inasmuch as He has protected us from the ravages of the savages, has spared us from pestilence and disease, has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience; now, I, your magistrate, do proclaim that all ye Pilgrims, with your wives and little ones, do gather at ye *P.S. Restaurant, at 1121 Street of the Polks, in the Gulch, between the hours of 1 and 10 in the day time and eventide, on Thursday, November ye 27th of the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty, and the three hundred and sixtieth year since ye Pilgrims landed on ye Pilgrim Rock, there to listen to ye pastor, and render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all His blessings.

WILLIAM BRADFORD Ye Governor of Ye Colony

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INS Victim Gets Active In Local Affairs

Carl Hill Urges Parade Unity



Carl Hill begins his adaptation to West Coast Gay life. (Photo by Rink)

(Continued from Page 1)

are basically aiming at one thing: Gay Liberation," he said.

"San Francisco is the mecca for the rest of the world," he continued. "This may be a ghetto, but it is a very important ghetto. We all look to San Francisco for how to do things."

He, therefore, urged the Gay community here to "keep it together," that he might return to England reporting "not a mess but unity here." Hill is a photographer for Gay News in London.

He further recommended that Gay organizations here might pair with Gay organizations elsewhere — each twin to the other that might improve an international cohesiveness of the developing movement in the face of what he observes as a "conservative turn throughout the Western World."

The meeting of the group, formerly known as the General Membership of the 1980 Gay Freedom Day Committee and

now reincorporated under their new name, Lesbian/Gay Parade Committee, in order to evade continuing structural fighting with the GFDC's corporate Board of Directors and get on with planning next year's parade, also discussed a theme for next year's Gay Freedom Day, the last Sunday in June.

Unity and politics were stressed as each person in the circle of some 30 women and men was given opportunity to address the question. The importance of cultural presentations, Third World representation and participation, and resistance to the extreme Right were all mentioned as priorities.

Further meetings of the L/GPC, which incorporated November 6 and must present bylaws to the State by early January, were scheduled for the Women's Building Sundays, 5-7pm, November 30 and December 14 — primarily to discuss those bylaws — and January 11, when nominations for 1981 officers will be held.

Meanwhile, Monday evening a mediating committee of the group met with members of the old Gay Freedom Day Committee corporate Board, that for the last six months denied the legitimacy of the general membership and now, after their reincorporation, suggested these negotiations.

The spirit of compromise — or at least personal camaraderie — was in the air at the meeting held upstairs at Amelia's, owner Rikki Streicher, a recently appointed member of the Board, serving drinks. The session was an airing of facts from both sides, and the group agreed to meet again at Amelia's next Monday evening, afterwards posing together for a group photo by Rink.

Attending the meeting from the Parade Committee were Kory White, Kim Corsaro, Glenne McElhinney, Reid Condit, John Kyper, Greg Day and Konstantin Berlandt. The Freedom Day corporate board was represented by Chris Perry, Michael Housch, Mary Jane Atkins, Bob Cramer, and Streicher.

This year's parade co-chair Bruce Goranson and Board President Carole Fitzgibbons this week would mail their resignations from the GFDC's corporate Board, according to Goranson in a phone call to this reporter last week.

Goranson said he hoped their resignations would remove any obstacles to open negotiations between the two groups.

To date, the groups differ in their approaches to achieving maximum community input coupled with maximum reliability, responsibility and credibility, but if the structural fight continues to play in the forefront, the potential to achieve either goal in this teetering equatial will be nil.

Konstantin Berlandt

WHY SAVE IT? PEDDLE IT . . . with a B.A.R. Classified Ad

Breakthrough for 'TV Guide'

by Konstantin Berlandt

Gays are again pitted against fundamentalist Christian preachers in last week's TV Guide (the one with J.R. on the cover).

The controversy is over the Federal Communications Commission "Fairness Doctrine" that provided the rationale for Charlotte, N.C.'s WSOC to pre-empt evangelist minister Charles Sustar's paid time Sunday morning program for Metropolitan Community Church Lesbian preacher Nancy Radclyffe to respond to his bile against Gays.

To the TV Guide audience—circulation 18,870,730—an estimated 43 million adult readers, far beyond the circulation of any other print media in the country and on more night stands and coffee tables that will ever again see the backside of a Bible—Sustar says, "They gave equal time to a homosexual to respond to my sermon, but I say that homosexuals already have had more than equal time. Look at 'Soap.' It shows them in a good light in prime time! I'll tell you this: since we can be pre-empted to give them free time, we're going to take every action we can to see that we get equal time to respond to programs like 'Soap.'"

In the back of this same issue of America's favorite magazine — whether they realize it or not — is an interview with the very Billy Crystal who plays that regular Gay character in the ABC series. The article is titled

with a quote from the actor: "I felt a lot of rage."

Crystal, a stand-up comedian, does not deny he's Gay in real life. When people tauntingly ask if he isn't as Gay as the character he plays, he tells America's viewers leafing through the magazine for something else to watch, "I just wanted to shout at them, "Yeah, and what if I am?"

He very quickly adds, "Now don't get me wrong; I'm not a drumbeater for Gay rights."
The phrase rings of all those articles we've seen over the last decade of women complaining of general or specific injustices to their sex quickly disavowing, "I'm not one of those Women's Libbers, but..."

Crystal is also married and has kids, the article written carefully enough not to impugn his reputation completely, but within the straight media it's perhaps the most outfront interview yet with an apparently Gay person about the problems of acting a Gay role.

Ordinarily, such interviews are spent trying to convince the audience the actor (or actress) is straight as you or I, but this one gets beyond that: "What if I am?"

The article will probably not be perceived in its time for the historical step made: We can talk about it now — on the pages of TV Guide, then isn't Family Circle next? We have arrived: TV Wants You!

Gay Display at Hayward Library to Continue

by Gene Earl

An all-women city library commission voted 4-2 to permit the controversial display of artworks, books and photographs entitled "Out of the Closet" about homosexuality to remain in the lobby of the Hayward Main Library.

Members of the Gay community and their supporters far outnumbered their opponents, for the most part religious fundamentalists. More than 80 people jammed into the small room, among whom were Lane Thompson, president of H.E.R.O.; Kristen Loomis, of the Pacific Center in Berkeley; and other local community members.

Library Commissioner Alison Lewis had her hands full at-

NEWS

tempting to limit testimony to whether the display showed advocacy of homosexual conduct. Opponents of the display did show advocacy of a life style they did not want their children to be involved with. All opponents of the display wanted the display removed, but did not want to violate the First Amendment by banning the books from the library. The display has been shown in Berkeley and Union City without incidents in the past few months.

Library Director William Webster, who has held that post in Hayward for more than 25 years, said it was the first controversy to arise in the library in more than 18 years.

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Wayne Friday ul-Francis Hartmann

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etters...

Within a period of four hours yesterday I witnessed to events which illustrate the extremes of gay presence in our city.

In the late afternoon, a group of 20-40 youths emerged from Dolores Park directly across the street from my residence at 740 Church. They began threatening clitzens walking on Church Street. Two gay men were seriously injured and many other people literally ran for their lives. My downstairs tenant called the police at the first sign of trouble and reports it took 15-20 minutes for a response. A patrol car finally arrived at Church and Cumberland (my comer) and the officers went into the park to investigate; by that time the toughs had retreated into the park. I could see the entire view from my window and sensed further trouble: I called the police and suggested they had better get some more cars over fast, ed they had better get some more cars over fast, which they did. I read in today's papers that ten

Four hours later I was in attendance at Davies Hall for a grand concert celebrating the first appearance of a gay musical organization in a major concert hall in this country. You gave a stirring speech in which you affirmed the rights of gay people in our city. By her presence at our concert, I assume Supervisor Louise Renne shares your views.

Now is the time for you to actively move to guarantee that the rights of all citizens of this city are protected. I specifically request that you do the following:

1. Evaluate, together with Chief Murphy, the response time needed by the police when called regarding emergency attacks on gay citizens.

Re-examine the priorities of the police regarding raids on private gay clubs versus public attacks on gay citizens.

Urge the district attorney's office to prosecute the arrested mob members to the fullest extent of the law for such an outrageous attack.

4. Send statements to Bay Area Reporter, The Sentinel, The Voice, and other gay organizations reaffirming your commitment to making this city safe for its gay citizens, indeed all its citizens.

It is a sorry day when I cannot feel safe on the street outside my home in broad daylight. I heard your words at Davies Hall Sunday evening, for which I thank you. I await your actions to the anarchist activities of Sunday afternoon, for which all citizens of this city will thank you.

WHY THE JAGUAR?

Dear Mayor Feinstein

I wish to convey to you my outrage, disappointment, and dismay at the actions of your police department in reaction to the San Francisco Gay community

I would be interested in knowing if there is a stand-ard, written purpose statement for the police depart-ment. If such a statement exists, and includes the Gay community of San Francisco either directly or by im-plication, then it is my opinion that your police fall far short of their purpose.

Having written a column in the Bay Area Reporter on the subject of anti-Gay violence in San Francisco, and a past Project Director of Community United Against Violence (CUAV), I am all too familiar with the actions of your police. My two-year experience of direct dealing with various persons in the SFPD, ranging from rank-and-file up through Captains and Lieutenants to the Police Commission left me with a great sense of frustration and deep concern for the well-being of the average Gay San Franciscan.

Despite your ill-advised opinion that there is no such problem as a wave of anti-Gay violence in San Francisco, I, and many others directly aware of the reality of the situation know the facts. Gay San Franciscans have valid reasons to fear walking our streets, and I, among many thousands of others, are (sic) tired of your lack of willingness to remedy the problem

Your police seem to add to the danger rather than ork to eliminate it. A case in point is the "holy war gainst the Jaguar Bookstore in the Castro district

The recent invasion of this private club by no less than 8 officers is a disgrace. People are being beaten on the streets and your licensed voyeurs have nothing better to do than invade a private club?

May I suggest how you could illustrate that you are in possession of the reins of government, and that you operate from a position of high integrity?

1. Make it clear to the rank-and-file of the SFPD that anti-Gay violence (both from criminal assailants and police officers) will not be tolerated. Put some muscle into the statement by pledging that officers guilty of misconduct will be in certain jeopardy of ending their careers with the SFPD! At present, police officers are limited in the extent of their misconduct only by their own imaginations.

2. Halt the absurd waste of police resources in at tempting to create and prosecute crime where it does not exist. What most rational of people call "victimless crime" is the favorite target of too many of our carpet-bagging officers from Novato and points north.

I, and many thousands who voted for you, have far more fear of violence in the streets than of people in private clubs, nude sunbathers, or neighborhood pot dealers.

Your police seem to enjoy the drama of undercover work in preventing alcoholic derelicts from being robbed of \$1, and entrapping small-time drug dealers while ignoring the big-time traffickers (too much like work?). Why not dress young officers in typical Castro Street garb and set traps for people like those that beat me senseless simply because I am Gay?

Illustrate that the Office of the Mayor is the seat of power in San Francisco, that it is not so that Bob Barry and the POA can make Dianne Feinstein leap through hoops if they wish. Show San Francisco that its Mayor cares about the safety of its citizens in providing a SFPD that protects rather than threatens us.

I would greatly appreciate a genuine reply to this letter. (Rather than a form letter basically stating that everything is just hunky-dory and that my concerns are III-founded.)

James Andrew Nicholas

ED. NOTE: Only last week Mission Station was identified with the highest rate of robbery and aggravated assault in the city. And the numbers multiply each year. Only when this rate drops significantly will we know that the police are doing their job as far as Gay people are concerned.

FRANKLIN HOSPITAL PHOBIA

★ I am writing to you as an employee of Franklin Hospital in San Francisco. I would like to make all your readers aware of the discrimination against gay male staff members.

Many of us came to work dressed in costumes for Halloween, as we were told we could. Some of my co-workers were sent home after showing up for work in some garment not considered suitable by the hospital administration. Males with moustaches or beards in any form of women's clothes were sent home to change, while the clean shaven heterosexual males in women's clothing, complete with makeup, were allowed to stay.

Franklin Hospital has chosen to employ a large number of gay males but they certainly have a long way to go in dealing with us on an equal basis. This needs to become public knowledge so that potential gay employees might think twice before working there.

J.C. A registered nurse at Franklin

NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN

★ I wish to take this opportunity to thank the thousands of people who worked so hard and, by doing so, gave me such encouragement in my Congression-

I also wish to thank you and your staff for the full and fair coverage you gave to the Congressional race

I look forward to seeing all of you again during the

Dennis McQuaid

Viewpoint BIRD SHOT

On Violence: There isn't much more the B.A.R. can say that it hasn't said month after month, issue after issue. Life in the Mission/Castro becomes one of mordant fear as law-lessness becomes the commonplace. Dianne Feinstein can not stem the tide and like so many of the effeminate politicians has surrendered our values to those of blood lust. Were the victims Jews, we wonder if her hand-wringing would be as tepid. would be as tepid

On the CMC Carnival and its treacherous betrayer: A sad commentary on ourselves. He who informs should not forget we are everywhere now (even in the SFPD) and informers are informed on.

On the Sentinel charge of our inaccurate reporting and irresponsible journalism: We drew our material from attorneys Matt Coles and Ralph Peterson, Charles Lee Morris himself, and public records in the bankruptcy court. If Charles Lee Morris cannot honor debts of \$95,500 to his top ten creditors — to put it mildly — his fiscal health and future are precarious. If, on the other hand, Morris' statement of debts is fictitious or trumped up (a situation wherein the B.A.R. could be "inaccurate" — for how would we know of secreted assets) there again he is in a precarious situation. What we personally feel about his management, his labor disputes, and whether or not the paper will or will not continue is irrelevant when it comes to the facts of a major story. For the record (which reveals something about credibility) on November 4, 1980, Charles Lee Morris produced a press release under the Sentinel logo. Within hous his attorney was seeking to retrieve that release and subsequently announced that a part of the release had to be retracted. (Reason? . . . untrue.)

On Dolores Park: Roses to Jack "Irene" McGowan for having the balls to put the city on notice that if it can't protect us then we'll protect ourselves in our own fashion. For a minute he sounded like Harvey Milk — who was murdered by the hands that are striking down people today at any hour. Funny how I recall of no Gay or friends of Gays who were calling for a sitting down and seeking to find some way to get Dan White to better spend his time and energy. Then it was "in eye for an eye." Today, it's "we must understand their culture and their deprivations." The only things that haven't changed are the acceleration of violence and the public officials inability to stop it.

P. Lorch

etters...

RE THE SENTINEL'S RED INK

★ In regard to *The Sentinel's* bankruptcy proceedings, surely a newspaper that won't pay its former employees' back wages, has creditors banging at the door, and has been able to hold out \$40,000 from the IRS, can't be all bad.

Charles Lee Morris may not be the Dorothy Chandler of Gay journalism, but he is certainly Miss

Tom H. Youngblood

BATH HOUSE RUDENESS

★ On the evening of October 28, 1980, at approximately 11:30pm, I was one of many people who witnessed a very unfortunate incident at the Club Baths at 8th & Howard. There was a man at the window visiting this city from another country (Germany, I believe). Being unfamiliar with the procedures at this establishment and the English language, he was understandably slow and confused. Those people waiting in line were patient. The man working on the other side of the window was not patient, understanding or even civil. He became so verbally abusive to this foreign gentleman that many people in line became upset with the employee. He was rude, crude and vulgar, using language seldom heard from someone dealing with the public. Two men in line demanded to see the manager to lodge complaints against said employee. The employee told one man that if he didn't like the way he had handled the situation he could "get the hell out and not come back." The employee refused to give the man his ID card back to him. The other customer did get to see the manager (who was trying his utmost to ignore the whole episode) and was almost thrown out. I feel, as many did that night, that the behavior of this employee was deplorable. Why would any business establishment dealing with the public allow such disgraceful behavior? dealing havior?

I have come to the conclusion that this business is like many Gay businesses in S.F. The majority take advantage of their Gay clientele by charging ridiculously high prices for goods and/or services. I can honestly say that I will never again patronize the Club Baths and I will urge everyone I talk to to do the same. I will also be most reluctant to patronize any other Gay business unless I know for sure that I will not be ripped off by other Gay people trying to make a fast buck. I have lived in this city for almost ten years, and in that time the Gay population of S.F. has made absolutely no progress in bringing together an organized community of Gay people. We are still going in a hundred different directions led by a hundred self-serving factions. How can we expect straight people to treat us with dignity and respect when our whole lifestyle is so hedonistic that we can't even help each other?

Keith Hirdler San Francisco

PRESS DOUBLE STANDARDS

★ I have noticed some recent coverage in the *Chron* icle which makes their editorial hypocrisy obvious.

10/18/80 — Warren Hinckle's column deals with esuit Snipping at Gays.

10/20/80 — The column by Bill Soiffar (Big Gay Protest at USF) appeared.

10/21/80 — The editorial in support of the USF position (USF's Stand).

11/ 1/80 — A picture of Ronald Reagan was printed, showing him between two "straight" female stewardesses in drag. One stewardess was dressed as a nun, carrying a sign which read "Reagan's GOT THE SPIRIT."

Now, really, in this country we have the First Amendment, which guarantees the separation of church and state. When a Gay man dresses as a nun, the *Chronicle* gets all kinds of upset; yet when an allegedly straight woman does the same thing, they say nothing. Obviously, some explanation is in order.

Herbert S. Levy Chairperson, Americans For A Responsible Media

AUSTRALIAN WAVES

* Imagine my surprise to find I'm read on the west coast of the dear old U.S. of A. let alone rate a mention (Aussie Shocked by Movie Madness in America) in your September 25 edition. I would, however, hate anyone to think that I was having a got at a country I love a great deal and long to return to as soon as possible. In fact, when I become rich and famous (I've been promising myself that for years) I might even be able to live in that great land up yonder.

I know space did not permit your running my small satirical item in toto (nothing to do with Judy Garland's dog in "The Wizard of Oz") and I fear selective quotes may give people the wrong impression. I notice too that in quoting "I've always had a soft spot for Jack Wrangler" you discretely omitted "(or should

that he hard spot?)

Never mind. All the anecdotes in my story are absolutely true although I did have a marvelous time. Space requirements meant that I couldn't give the same treatment to my all too brief stay in San Francisco the highlight of which was finding a Mamie Van Doren record in a second-hand store on Polk Street. And that's some highlight for an avid Mamie freak like myself.

I'm hoping to make it back to your hospitable shores early in 1982 which seems an eternity away at present. I hope that trip is at least half as interesting as the last.

P.S.: Is there any way of subscribing to Bay Area Reporter? Any newspaper that can make a story out of me can't be all bad.

DOLORES VIOLENCE

An Open Letter to the Gay Community of San

As many of you are no doubt aware, incidences of violence perpetrated against gay people have increased dramatically in the last few months in San Francisco. Last Sunday, two men were attacked and stabbed by marauding punk gangs near Dolores Park at 5PM. This attack occurred in my neighborhood near a park I have frequented on many a sunny afternoon. Now, it seems, not even our public parks and meeting places are immune from these unconscionable acts.

Dolores Park, once a well-groomed, clean, and safe place for friends, family, and children to congregate in has turned into a garbage dump with all manner of litter and broken glass strewn everywhere. Since the passage of Proposition 13, city funds available to maintain these public places have shriveled. The other day when I spoke with one of the two remaining maintenance people who articulated some of the problems. He said the lack of personnel to keep up the park has been compounded by the influx of youth from the surrounding neighborhood and Mission High School. The maintenance man went on to say that while he begrudges no one the right to enjoy the park, he was infuriated by many of these youths who willfully and defiantly litter the park. When he questioned some of them one day as he was stooping to pick up shreds of glass and other debris, one of them responded rather lippantly that he was a well-paid city employee, it was his job to clean up after them.

As a citizen of San Francisco, a user of Dolores Park, and a gay man, I am outraged over these acts of violence and disrespect toward both persons and property. In talking and listening to gay people since this most recent attack, I sense not only growing consternation but a very vocal and chilling militancy in response to the muggling, assaults, threats, and verbal abuses. Indeed, some gays see that the only alternative to this rash of violence is for them to arm against the perpetrators, i.e. youth gangs. This, I'm afraid can lead only to further retributions from both sides and various scenarios pitting gays against the youth gangs in some sort of sexual-racial war. various scenarios pitting gays ag in some sort of sexual-racial war

Politics in San Francisco has entered into a new era. There are today so many ethnic, cultural, sexual, and political forces within the city clamoring for recognition, acceptance, and validation. Conflicts over how these things are to be achieved are inevitable. And, given the mood of the country in the light of recent elections, we may be facing difficult times in which many programs and laws enacted to protect and promote the civil rights of so many minorities are called into question. We as gay people have also benefitted from these laws upholding our civil rights. We have come to make ourselves very visible in San Francisco; we are a strong and sought-after voting bloc; we have fought for and earned political representation; we have amassed considerable economic clout, and we are making important contributions in so many areas toward a human, creative, alive, and healthy city.

The struggle for our civil rights and those of all the disenfranchised, depressed, disadvantaged, and exploited minorities is far from won. We must as gay people help not only ourselves to mature but also our severest critics and detractors, those whose own frustration, pain, and hopelessness emerge in the violence we are witnessing on our city streets today.

We must denounce loudly the present wave of vio-lence against the gay community at the same time we individually and collectively search out the roots and causes of that violence. To fight violence with vio-lence is not going to wash away homophobia, rather, it will deepen and spread in those people who are now attacking gay people. We of the gay community must look into ourselves. Have we perhaps grown too complacent, too smug over the rights and privileges we have won? Is there more to us than refurbishing Victorians, opening boutiques, packing bars, sporting the latest styles? Do we want to retreat behind the walls of our comfortable fortresses, or are we willing once again to take up the challenge, to respond to fear with compassion, understanding, education, to seek alternatives to vigilante groups, to love in the face of hate and condemnation?

Craig M. Machado San Francisco

More Letters on Page 8



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Mayor Bradley Proclaims December 12 - 14 "EXPO WEEKEND"

Los Angeles

Mayor Tom Bradley has proclaimed December 12-14 "Gay & Lesbian Lifestyles Expo Weekend" in honor of the event being held those dates at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

The proclamation was presented by Mayor Bradley to Graphic Industries, Inc., Expo producers, for their efforts and community outreach in presenting this first-time show. The complete text of the proclamation:

"Whereas the 'Gay & Lesbian Lifestyles Expo,' to be held December 12-14 at the Los Angeles Convention Center, is the first event of its kind ever staged which will create an open environment wherein the business community will have direct contact with the gay and lesbian consumer, and

Whereas the 'Gay & Lesbian Lifestyles Expo' will establish an open communication between the business community and the gay and lesbian business community, and

Whereas members of the gay and lesbian community have made valuable contributions in the fields of arts, literature, politics and commerce, recognizing the need for open communication between all members of the community,

Whereas the 'Gay & Lesbian Lifestyles Expo' will reflect the diverse segments of the gay and lesbian community by showcasing the numerous facets of their lifestyles:

Now, therefore, I, Tom Bradley, Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, do hereby proclaim the weekend of December 12-14, 1980, as 'Gay & Lesbian Lifestyles Expo Weekend' and commend the producers of the 'Gay & Lesbian Lifestyles Expo' for their efforts."

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A LETTER TO SUPERVISOR SILVER

I am appalled by your recent remark that the only complaints you have had concerning Dolores Park center around the dogshit which decorates the area. To have made such a remark indicates a grotesque ignorance of what is happening in your district, or a desire not to know about it.

I live directly across the street from Mission High School. During the daytime residents of my block must cope with students loitering on our doorsteps, decorating our building with graffiti, blaring stereo consoles so that we cannot hear conversations within our own apartments, and low-riders burning rubber and showing off by attempting 360 degree wheelies in the intersection of Dolores and 18th Street.

This summer I was attacked a block from my house by a gang of ten Latino kids, average age 15, who came running out of Dolores Park after me as I was walking up 18th Street to get a hamburger. It was exactly like a scene out of A CLOCKWORK ORANGE. I escaped with my life because I carned a whistle, thought quickly, and ran into the night traffic on 18th Street. Had I not been forced to take those precautions I would not be allive to write this letter to you. I have since gotten into the habit of taking a bus or cab from my house to Castro at night — simply to protect my life.

I've received many invitations from you to attend fundraisers. Now I'll extend an invitation to you. Feel free to spend some morning in my home office watching the shenanigans on Dolores Street. Better yet, come to Dolores Park some Friday or Saturday night around 11:00pm. Walk the paths and adjoining sidewalks — alone. I'll even lend you a whistle. Let's see if dogshit is the only problem you encounter.

BUENA VISTA ATTACK

★ This letter is sent as an alert to anyone who uses Buena Vista Park at night. On Tuesday night, November 11, I was robbed and assaulted by someone

I was in the bushes with someone when I noticed someone watching us (as often people do). The next thing I knew this person had come up behind me, pulled a ski-mask over his face, and said in a gruff manner, "You guys are under arrest!" Then he grabbed me by the arm and around the neck and demanded identification. "Gimme that wallet," he said and then I realized this was not an arrest but a robbery. I started to yell "HELP" and he wrestled me to the ground and put a gloved hand over my mouth. At this point my "FRIEND" took off like a frightened deer. The robber took the money out of my wallet and said, "I'm a cop on the take; don't say a word and get the hell out of here."

I stood up, got to a clearing and blew my whistle. A number of men immediately came out of the bushes to help me. This is where the incident ended, but not

I am writing this to express some thoughts about it:

1) The pretext of this robber posing as a cop is worth noting. Resisting a cop means probably a beating along with the arrest – it is a license for brutality. So a robber using this story has a huge psychological advantage over you — DON'T FALL FOR IT! This is where his power over you is in this instance. 2) I can't blame the guy I was with for wanting to get out, but I can't forgive him for not even yelling "help" as he ran away. I could have been found as a corpse in the morning. 3) To whoever you are who ran away, you were open to being fucked, but not open to helping perhaps save my life!

Name Withheld

MAYOR DERELICT

To Dianne Feinstein:

Your apparent inability to effectively deal with the alarming increase of senseless violent crime in our city is an absolute disgrace. Your asinine public denial that much of this violence is specifically directed towards gay people has me so infuriated that good taste prevents me from expressing exactly what I think about that denial.

Having majored in law enforcement in college and having a little common sense, I feel compelled to offer some advice. First of all, I don't give a damn how many colors we paint our patrol cars. The crime rate in this city will continue to rise until San Francisco's finest plant their two feet firmly on the ground and start walking the streets of this city. Secondly, what the Police Chief chooses to wear or not wear on the job will, quite frankly, do very little for make the streets of this city safe. What will effect some change is strong leadership and a determined, unified effort to return this city to its law abiding citizenry and unwrest if from the control of thugs, muggers, and goddamned punks. If Con Murphy can't do the job, then let's get someone who can!

With all due respect, Mayor Feinstein, should you continue to neglect your responsibility to make this city safe for all its citizenry, then by God, I'll pay for

the cost of printing the recall petitions and then maybe Quentin Kopp or Jack Molinari can get the job done.

Joe Rock Concerned Mission Resident

UGLINESS ON THE STREET

* Richard Valentino's letter in the Nov. 6 issue prompts me to write of a similar disheartening experience. A friend and I had just enjoyed a pleasant time dining at Jackson's Restaurant, and were walking past the public housing buildings near Fisherman's Wharf. As we talked while walking, we were completely unaware of being observed by a pack of school-age youths. Suddenly a jagged bottom of a coke bottle came hurtling through the air and struck me on the back of my hand. Fortunately, the flat side hit or else! a would have suffered deep gashes from the jagged glass. A stream of foul epithets followed as they ran out of sight. We are taxed to house and support them and that is the thanks we get.

P.S. — I was at the Halloween get-together on Castro from 8pm to 2am and witnessed no altercations at all with the police. Actually, I saw one Gay tell an officer, "We are glad you are here tonight." If something disastrous had happened (a pack of thugs) and no police were on hand, then Gays would complain about that.

Why do the police go into private clubs but do othing about the hustlers standing all along Polk St.?

THE BATHS AND A LAUNDRY LIST OF ??'S

* We so frequently see letters against the people who run the Club Baths at 8th & Howard. Until then it seemed academic but last week an attractive young man, not overweight, was rudely refused entry into the baths without a passport although he is obviously over 30 (he is 36). What an introduction to our city for a pleasant Gay tourist from Munich. Let's organize against these bigots! My roommate met one of those who run the place and they freely expressed racist sentiments!

Why do we in our community devour ourselves? Must we be our own enemies? CB persecutes Gays, internal ego-tripping on both sides threatens to destroy our Gay Parade because self-serving overcomes a sense of community. More ego-tripping threatens to destroy our second-best newspaper because some Gays have so much contempt for Gay community interest. The "Castro man" is pursuing his policy of one-night sex without respect for individuality or humaneness. Self-seeking political ego-trippers attack our leading Gay contributors andleaders more than they would attack Anita Bryant. It's so discouraging! What is the answer to this orgy of community self-destruction?

P.S. — My roommate and 1 like the friendly N'Touch but can't understand why they always play the same old 40 records. Don't they realize that there's more music out there in FM-land?

POL'S APPRECIATION

Thank you for taking the time to offer your kind expressions of encouragement.

Ella Hill Hutch

P.S. It was a great campaign and a fantastic victory. Thanks to you!

KOPP THANKS

 \bigstar Thank you very much for your good wishes and congratulations upon our marvelous results at the polls on November 4th.

It is you and almost 130,000 voters like you who made it possible and I am grateful.

Please be assured that I shall continue to try to provide the very highest standard of representation and leadership to all of the people of San Francisco in the years ahead.

Quentin L. Kopp

SOUTH BAY THANKS

★ May I express my sincere appreciation for your re-cent endorsement of my candidacy for the 11th Con-gressional District seat.

Let me assure you that my dedication to the basic principles of human rights and a free and open society is permanent and ongoing.

Please feel free to contact me on matters of con-

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(Complimentary glass of wine with dinners)

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and so far have had good suc-

T.D. Picketing A Statement

by Gene Earl

The situation at the Tinkers Damn in Santa Clara is getting serious. The pickets, led by Lambda Association and other

service-oriented organizations, have stated that they are there to stay until Starkey, the owner of the Tinkers Damn, sells. No other solution will do.

The pickets, who are well or-ganized, stand outside on vari-ous nights and speak to the patrons as they enter. They have literature to hand out,

I need not again state what brought this entire issue to hand, but I will suggest that patrons consider the support that other bars have given the community, take a look at the lack of support that the T.D. has given in the 10 for 10 Program (a total donation of \$18.15), and go where their dollars will come back to the community. Above photos show Johnie Staggs and Rosalie Nichols collecting the donation of \$18.15 from the T.D. and a group of pickets led by Dave Steward of the California Human Rights Commission and Frank O'Reilly.

Empress Ousted

The Board of Directors of the Cypress Empire of Monterey has announced that they, by unanimous vote, have declared the title of Empress VIII of Monterey null, void and vacant and that Kristina (who held the and that Kristina (Who held the title) is no longer entitled to be recognized as a representative of the Monterey Cypress Empire. The action was taken by the Board as a reaction to Kristina's actions at Coronation '80 held October 4 of this year.

White Horse Under **New Management**

In recent months, most every bar patron in Oakland has heard of alleged incidents of sexual and racial discrimination as well as violence at the White Horse in Oakland.

Most of the cases have been distorted fact. The cases of racial discrimination were for the most part a case where an underage person was not allowed to come into the bar. The cases of violence are also for the most part distorted. In defense of the former manager, Ron Brewer, it should be noted that when he took over the White Horse, the bar was notorious for blatant drug dealing on the floor and over the bar. Fights and knifings were also commonplace. Ron Brewer was at least instrumental in putting a stop to the drugs and most of the violence. It should also be noted that, according to Christian Horvath, a close friend of Josie, who was alleged to have died outside the White Horse due to maltreatment from Ron Brewer, that Josie in fact died the following day in Ms. Horvath's that Josie in fact died the fol-lowing day in Ms. Horvath's BAY AREA REPORTER

apartment from complications arising from a blood disease, aplastic anemia. The police reports confirm this information.

Ron Brewer is now gone from the White Horse, and in his place is a new manager, Trock, formerly of the Wild Goose and Buzzby's in San Francisco. Trock and his staff wish it known that there will be no discrimination based on sex or race at the White Horse. All are welcome.

Help The **Gay Hotline**

Each year the Bay Area Gay Switchboard at 841-6224 handles thousands of information, rap, and crisis calls from Lesbians, Gay men, bisexual people, transvestites, and transsexuals.

transexuals.

Training and support groups are provided to improve referral and phone counseling skills. If you want to devote time to working with and helping your community, call Vic at 841-6224. That's 841-6224.

NOV. 20, 1980



pickets led by Dave Steward, Californ ad Frank O'Reilly. (Photo by Ted Sahl) nia Human Rights Comm

B.A.R. Interviews Writer Randy Shilts on Harvey Milk

by Dan Turner

SHILTS: The object of the book is the definitive account of the Gay emergence in S.F. in the late 70's. It will also deal to some extent with the national Gay emergence. In this sense it is a life and times biography of Harvey Milk. It's using H.M. as the central figure but showing the development of the entire Gay phenomena that really paralleled his own development as a Gay activist who is concerned with both political and economic power and so there's going to be a number of characters. What I'm excited about particularly is the style — that new-journalism with a number of people who will serve like characters to show different points — the parallel I'm using will be like a Michener novel where each of the characters represents different sociological forces. logical forces

So among the characters will be Moscone, John Briggs, Dan White, and a number of other characters, for example, I think Rick Stokes would have to be an important character because he is somebody who in an honorable way represents the more moderate Gay leadership than Harvey did and he's had an intriguing life as well, so there are a number of people like that that I'm going to fully develop and doing that I can show the diversity of the Gay community.

DT: Will they be named in the book?

SHILTS: Oh yeah, it's going to be journalistic, every fact in it a piece of journalism, every fact is going to be substantiated and you can't avoid some of the reportorlal "according to so and so," it's got to have your attribution there, but stylistically I want it to flow like a good book. I think the one falling that we've seen in Gay books so far is that the people are concerned with



Journalist and author Randy Shilts whose life of Harvey Milk will be published by St. Martin's Press. (Photo by Rink)

DT: In your own way, will you be answering the CBS documentary?

Supervisor to get re-elected, and I think it's obvious by that first anniversary that Harvey Milk's assassination did not mark the end of the Gay emergence in S.F. Instead it really marked the beginning of our entrenchment as a power and I think that's borne out by the first anniversary of the assassination — it's a new teams of the back.

SHILTS: Oh, definitely, because when you talk about what the CBS documentary just talked about, but fucking and blow jobs in Buena Vista Park, they were dirty-minded heterosexuals and that's all they cared talking about. The Gay phenomena in S.F. represented hundreds of thousands of people throughout the U.S. who live decent and fulfilling lives, and they had one interpretation of what Gay politics is. I'm going to be presenting an entirely different one, and I think it's necessary to get the truth out.

DT: What is the name of the book?

SHILTS: "The Mayor of Castro Street - The Life and Times of Harvey

DT: Do you have an outline?

nice way to end the book

SHILTS: Yes, a 62-page chapter by chapter outline. As I've got right now there'll be twenty chapters in the book with a prologue. It's divided into four sections. Eighty percent of the book will be on Castro Street and H. M. between 1973 and 1979, that's going to be the real focus of the book, but also in doing this I want to make it a Gay saga, so we'll be starting with New York. The prologue will have to be the day of the assassinations. We'll start in New York in terms of the contents of the book — starting with H. M. in 1930 when he was born. Say in 1934 I'll give an anecdote of Harvey when he was 4 years old and then go to Italics and explain that very year was the year of the Night of the Long Knives in Germany and do a couple of paragraphs on the Night of the Long Knives in Germany — when the homosexual emancipation movement was stamped out.

When I talk about H.M. cruising Central Park in his teens which was in the mid 40's that gives me the opportunity to discuss a little bit about what Gay life was like in the 40's. When I talk about Gay life in the 40's and when I talk about H.M. at a certain age, at some point flash over — say in 1950 when he was 20, there was a kid in the fifth grade class in Orange County (Whittier) who ran for fifth grade class vice president. He was the son of a divorced truck stop waltress and he put his name up on the blackboard — and the teacher ordered his name erased because he was the white trash son of a divorced woman; that was a big sin back then, so he couldn't run for class vice president. That politician later became someone who would do anything to win an election. That politician was John Briggs. So I'm going to be developing all the different characters from the disparate beginnings from Gwenn Craig (as a little black girl growing up in Georgia) and Cleve Jones when he was a runaway at 18 in the Tenderloin which was 1973 — talking about Harvey's first campaign in 1973 — Cleve symbolizing the radical that Harvey represented. When I talk about H.M. cruising Central Park in his teens which was in the

DT: Each of the characters is going to be taken from their roots and parallel au history at the same time?

SHILTS: Right. Not like we were a bunch of clones — despite the way we look. We're not turned out of some test tube and dropped in S.F.; we come from just every imaginable background. And like a saga, I want the book to present that; and with H.M. as a central character we get, somebody — you couldn't get a better example of the typical homosexual in his early life — he's very closeted with his family, very closeted on the job, kicked out of the Navy (because of that he couldn't teach, which was his career) and couldn't find other work — Wall Street as a financial analyst — and then he was certainly your homosexual everyman — but he decided to do something different — he was an actor — mainly on the production end — he produced plays — he worked with Tom O'Horgan who did LENNY and JESUS CHRIST SUPER-STAR. Getting into show business is when he started loosening up more, which was in his late 30's. By 39 he became a hippie, and after living this life of an oppressed homosexual and not doing anything about it, he had a real change, and started lighting it in his idiosyncratic way, and so from 1973 on you see this little guy trying to fight the oppressive system — and believing in his heart of hearts that you can change the world.

Going back and rereading his speeches, I'm amazed to see what an idealistic, optimistic visionary he was — about what we could do in the world. Based on that he ran at a time when the Gay movement was weak in S.F. He ran and didn't do well, but he ran and kept on running — the Gay movement grew, too — it was a parallel where the Gay community gained in strength — Castro Street, the paragon of Gay political and economic clout he was so integral in helping develop

He arrived in '69', worked for a while down on Montgomery Street, and then I think there was a merger of some firms and he lost his job, and in a ceremonious way on the day of the Cambodian invasion he got radicalized, I think he was working for BOA or a major financial institution. He went down to the steps of the Pacific Stock Exchange and burned his ID card — very typical, very theatrical H.M. — he always liked theatrical touches; theater and politics were very close — marching everyone up Castro Street to go to City Hall.

SHILTS: He said he was watching Richard Nixon on TV after Watergate, lying through his teeth. It made him so mad that he decided to run for office and he thought if that turkey could be in office, he could — here I am.

DT: A growing eternal identification — he wanted more personal power? He wanted more power for the Gay community? Somehow these two things connected? His own inner feelings and the feelings of frustration with "was it a

SHILTS: First time he ran he kept his ponytail and long hair and he never expected to win, but he expected to start building a name recognition. He felt strongly that the best way to change people's views on homosexuality was to have Gay people in visible positions and now everyone accepts that. But when he started running it was shocking—it shocked a lot of people that homosexuals should be running and trying to get that power—even Gay people.

DT: I can remember people saying, "Oh, you can be Gay, but don't be ublic about it." That kind of closet attitude.

SHILTS: It's short-sighted to look at H.M. just as a politician that wanted to get himself elected or even pass an agenda of issues on the Board of Supervisors. In a very fundamental way he wanted to change the world; he wanted to change the way people viewed Gay people and homosexuality, and so he saw his campaigning and holding office as one part of what was necessary to break down the old stereotypes. That was his ultimate goal, and he was explicit about that. What's interesting was that he said you can take press releases and news stories that he wrote in 1973, and he was using some of the very same quotes in '77, and it was largely because he just had one set of ideas that he just stuck to.

DT: Did he have a column in the papers?

SHILTS: Yes, in B.A.R. since 1974 — "Milk Forum." It was interesting because the B-A-R. was his first basis of support, in the first race, out of the list of the list of endorsers three-quarters of them were either drag queens or people associated with the court and that is why he was close with Bob Ross; he supported Harvey from day one.

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dogmatically pounding their viewpoint down people's throats and I think if you tell people a good story that's professionally done, they'il get the politics because the politics will be appearing in it, but I want it to be a good story too. DT: What books are you referring to? SHILTS: I think most of the books

have been how to accept your homo-sexual son or why you should be able to have a healthy homosexual relationsexual son or why you should be able to have a healthy homosexual relationship, or why you could be close to God and be Gay — all of which take essentially an ideological point of view. Unlike a lot of my reporting, when I'm doing a television story or a magazine story, to some extent I have to be more distant from my work; this will be definitely a lot of tone, and I think it will be fairly obvious what my biases are. And I'm not worried about covering up my biases too much, but I'm going to be as fair as I was covering a news story, and that includes people who didn't agree with Harvey — but I think he's going to emerge as an extremely sympathetic character. It's based to a large extent on the magazine story in Christopher Street, and the most flattering thing said to me about that story is that people have said they cry when the finish — when Harvey got shot. I want heterosexuals to be able to cry when they sympathize with a Gay character and then feel good when that martyrdom goes on to gain more power than that character could have envisioned when he was alive.

DT: So you plan to continue the ook on after Harvey Milk's death?

SHILTS: I'll go through the first anniversary of the assassination. After you've killed off your main character, you've got to end your book relatively fast; but it's definitely going to go through the riots, because H.M. would have liked nothing better than those riots and that was a real working out of Harvey's ideas. From the riots I'll go to one last — the anniversary of the assassination which will serve as an epilogue. By that time we've developed all the characters; we've also developed a lot of plots concerning our S.F. By the first anniversary it's obvious that the Gays are entrenched in S.F. — the power brokers in the mayor's race last year. Our Supervisor was the only

BAY AREA REPORTER NOV. 20, 1980 PAGE 10



Harvey five years before his murder at a B.A.R. staff dinner. He jokes with publisher Paul Hardman.

DT: What connections does Gay politics have with the court and the Tavern Guild?

SHILTS: They weren't that involved in politics before. Drag queens more than anybody knew the importance of having up-front Gay people. First of all drag queens were the ones who were kicked around the most because they are the most visible Gay people.

DT: Again we return to Gay roots - Stonewall

SHLTS: The first person to run for public office in S.F. was Jose, the Empress Jose, in 1964 who ran for Supervisor and did it to protest the harassment in Gay bars — Jose was at the top of the list of H.M. endorsers in 1973, back when most people — including Gay people — thought Harvey was a flake and wouldn't have anything to do with him. But drag queens were behind him from the start — those were always Harvey's best supporters. They helped get out the vote. See, a lot of the more respectable Gay leaders were embarrassed by drag queens — and Harvey was never embarrassed by them. He'd always say that a lot of heterosexuals embarrass him. He really accepted drag queens. That was an interesting thing about him that he literally — in five years he did four campaigns which he lost — though the only way you could do something like that is to like campaigning — and he really liked campaigning — he liked getting up in the morning and shaking hands at bus stops.

DT: Where did he get the money for this?

SHILTS: He ran some of the lowest budget campaigns in the city's history, in terms of success, except for the last one in which he was outspent three to one, but still he was able to do as well as he did by the strength of his personality — he was your old-fashioned ward politician. He did very well on that personal level.

DT: You're going to start at the end?

SHILTS: Start at the day of the assassination, like a magazine story. In your prologue you want to establish why you're writing the book, why that person is important enough to write a book about and so in that you can tease a lot of what the impending drama. . .

DT: What is new journalism?

SHILTS: It will use journalistic facts that have been checked, thoroughly accurate as possible, but using a fictional style. There will be a definite voice unlike a news story and tone, there won't be any doubts about What I Think.

DT: Castro Street will be a focus?

SHILTS: Yes, on Castro Street between 1973 and 1979 you've got a place and a time where the forces of social change and the tide of dramatic effects collided to create a moment that we call historic — it was one of these unique caldrons like the Haight-Ashbury — the 70's, where Castro Street created the only counter-culture indigenous to that decade. We're the only movement that was born of and was indigenous to the 70's — it happened on Castro Street — it has to be recorded because it was a caldron of social change.

DT: When did you arrive?

SHILTS: 1975, from Oregon. I graduated in the top of my class at UofO: I was editor of the campus newspaper. Couldn't get a job in Portland, and all these people that got a lower grade point and worked below me on the campus paper — they all got job offers; I didn't — It was obvious they were not going to hire me — so I ended up free-lancing for The Advocate. A couple would ask if because I was guy that that meant I was politically biased — I said it didn't make me any more biased than a heterosexual.

DT: Did they feel that you were going to be a Gay journalist?

SHILTS: At times they were afraid — you see, as soon as you say you are Gay , you are making a political statement.

DT: You told them you were Gay?

SHILTS: They knew beforehand — it had been fairly well publicized — I was on the student senate. Before I got into journalism, I was active in Gay politics. I ran for student body president while I was chairman of Gay People's Alliance. When I started journalism school, I made 3 rules — you should never publicly endorse a political cause, candidate, or give money to anybody. I was editor of the campus newspaper. I was out. There was press on the fact that I was openly Gay. It travels in front of you. They wouldn't say that you're not getting hired because you're queer, but it was there; other people with less qualifications were getting the jobs.

Then I came to S.F. and free-lanced for The Advocate — which was great background for this project because it gave me a handle on what was going on nationally because I did all the news writing for about two and one-half years — did the pioneer health series. Then in 1971 I started working on TV for Channel 9 and then last year started working for Channel 2 free-lancing. I've been published in the Washington Post, Columbia Journalism Review, New West, Village Voice, L.A. Herald-Examiner, Criminal Justice Publications, Christopher Street, Blueboy, Guardian, and the San Francisco Chronicle and Examiner.

DT: Why did you leave The Advocate?

SHILTS: Two reasons — part of it was TV, and I thought it was important to have openly Gay people on TV — and the other point was the Advocate Experience. It was to some point a political organization — I don't think it's appropriate for publications to involve themselves in politics. David Goodstein was so closely aligned with politics that it undermined my credibility as a reporter; so there was the whole EST trip which I think is absolute phooey.

DT: Goodstein wanted everyone to go through the program?

SHILTS: Oh, yeah; I went through it and I wrote a story on it — not EST; I'd never go through EST. I went through the Advocate Experience and wrote my story on it for New West — "Go Est Young Man."

I cancelled my subscription to *The Advocate* at that time. Recently, they sent by a thing — there was a time when you did not take *The Advocate*; would you mind telling us why? And so I wrote and told them that it was because they had been pushing the Advocate Experience. I didn't think they should be political. They were a national paper and they were the only national Gay voice. It's more like a high school paper. There are some nice people who work there.

DT: Back to Harvey.

SHILTS: He was Gay but was also a politician. He was a constant politician — good at using the press. You never saw bad press on him.

He got more — every time he coughed. He knew how to treat reporters. He saw how important it was to change what people and the world thought about Gay people. He realized that the press is the most effective way to communicate with tens of thousands of people and so he went out of his way to be extremely nice to reporters; he had a sixth sense of what made a good story. When he called up, other Gay politicians would say they were being victims of Gay injustice, which is often true; but Harvey would call a reporter and say, "Hey, I've got a great story" and tell the reporter a little sensational tidbit that made something a good story; and inherent in that good story would be that sense of moral indignation and injustice — but he always knew what would make good copy. It was pragmatic and it worked.

SHILTS: Tied to your discussing Harvey's public life, will you be discussing his private life?

SHILTS: Yes; it's interesting. He doesn't have too much private life except from '73 on. I expect to be interviewing a number of his former lovers. He was so involved in politics he didn't allow himself a lot of time. Some of the most interesting information is surfacing on Jack Lear, the one who committed suicide; there will be a number of things that will startle people about a lot of the circumstances surrounding that.

DT: You're going to talk about it in the book?

SHILTS: Yes, Harvey's — I've got a lot of interviews to do, but what I really need are friends of Harvey's. The personal friends out there who knew Harvey. He dealt so much with personal contact; a lot of people have neat little stories about what he did or said, in a personal way; and if anybody out there has that kind of information, boy, I'd really appreciate for them to get hold of me. That would help me out; I'm in that research phase.

DT: What was Harvey Milk's background? Religious?

SHILTS: He's Jewish. He was anti-religious. In his later life he was a total atheist. He believed that religion was primarily responsible for screwing Gay people. He had a fascination with the holocaust that came from his own Jewish background — it was an obsession — and worried a lot about that happening to Gay people, which is why he was so militant.

DT: He seemed to have a premonition of violence happening to him. Is this part historical — did he launch off on his career with a kind of bravado that defied this kind of violence — or dared it?

(Continued on Page 33)

'Lesbian Tide'
Stops Publishing

Tide Publications announced November 10 that they will stop publishing their national feminist magazine, The Lesbian Tide.

Now the largest Lesbian paper in the U.S., *The Lesbian Tide* began publishing in 1971. The Los Angeles-based paper suspended publication with their May/June 1980 issue.

Publisher Jeanne Cordova said the newsmagazine's staff has decided they want to pursue other interests. "This last August marked our 9th Anniversary, and several core staff feel it is time to move on." Associate Publisher and Features Editor Sharon McDonald is now working on a collection of short stories. Production and Circulation Manager Barbara Gehrke is now working full time in the graphic arts industry. Publisher and News Editor Jeanne Cordova is working in Gay Democratic Party politics.

Summarizing the staff's feelings Cordova said, "It's been a very long and personally difficult decision for all of us. We remain deeply proud of the accomplishments of *The Lesbian Tide*, the role it played in the development of radical feminism and the national Lesbian feminist community, and how it touched women's lives."

Tide Publications wishes to notify its retail outlets and advertisers that they have ceased publication. They also note there is a substantial paperwork backlog as work is now proceeding on a volunteer basis, but all subscribers will be notified of their decision to stop publishing.

Jeanne Cordova of Tide Publications also announced it is possible they will publish another paper in 1981.



Politics & Poker

by Wayne Friday

The March Against Violence" commemorating the 2nd anniversary of the assassinations of Harvey Milk and George Moscone will take place Thanksgiving night, November 27 — a candlelight march from Castro to City Hall Gau candidates such as

Gay candidates such as Scott, Hardman, Peron, and Boneberg could set an example by now taking down all of their by now taking down all of their campaign signs that still are plastered on public property all over town . . . a judge in Los Angeles ruled last week that officials at Disneyland have the right to keep Gays from dancing with each other at that famed anywement park famed amusement park.

suspect that the Carter I suspect that the Carter wipe-out was much more of an anti-Carter vote than a pro-Reagan vote — let's face it, Carter was a political light-weight and a lousy president, and furthermore, let's stop sitting around wringing our hands over the Reagan election until he gives us reason to do so . . . I mean, could ANYONE be worse than Jimmy Carter? — the guy was a bumbling, selfish failure, and although the pros-

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pect of Reagan for President doesn't exactly thrill me, I am damned glad to get rid of Carter and his gang of incompetent idiots. As one Democratic Party official put in, "I strongly suspected Carter was going, but I didn't think he would take the whole party with him." ... Yvonne Burke lost a bid for election to the L.A. County Board of Supes as did another incumbent Supervisor in Los Angeles, the well-known liberal Baxter Ward, who was beaten by former Lt. Governor Mike Antonovich, a Republican . . most Sacramento political observers now see Mike Curb, a Reagan confidant, as the strongest Republican in the state now; Curb will run for Governor in 1982 with the strong backing of the new Republican President . . . one hint that Reagan was going to win it big should have been right in our own Gay community — the night before (Monday) the election, 12 of the first 15 asked at the N'Touch who they were going to vote for replied, "Reagan" — (again, most said because they couldn't take another four years of Carter) . . . so Cary Grant is suing comedian Chevy Chase for calling him a "homo" on national television — good, I hope he ruins the guy . . look for Senator Henry Jackson of Washington to become Reagan's Secretary of Defense, allowing the new Republican lowing the new Republican Governor of that state to ap-point yet another Republican to the GOP-controlled Senate. . . .

Figure this one out: 20 Lati-

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GAY CONCERNS

no punks beat the hell out of one Gay in Dolores Park and we are then told at a press con-ference by Latinos that "Gays should be more sensitive to the Latinos' problems" . . . and if Carol Ruth Silver would like to learn of attacks in Dolores Park on Gays by Latinos there, she should spend a little time on on Gays by Latinos there, she should spend a little time on the phone listening for a change instead of trying to placate everyone like the politician she really is . . . the Chronicle editorializes that Quentin Kopp should be the new Board President while the Examiner says the same about the incumbent President John Molinari . . . oh yeah, Carol Ruth, when are you finally going to stop running for higher office? . . . incidentally, I say that Molinari will keep his job as Board President — he needs six votes; counting his own, he now has Britt, Ward, Renne, Hongisto, and heep his jou as board resident—
he needs six votes; counting his own, he now has Britt, Ward, Renne, Hongisto, and Walker . . . and where does that leave Silver? Well, as the Examiner's Bill Barnes says, "Carol's choice for the job is, of course, Carol; but so it always has been and so it always will be" . . . Alan Cranston loses his powerful position as Majority Whip under the new Republican Senate — that job will go to Alaska's Ted Stevens . . incidentally, the new Senate will have two women (both Republicans) and the new House will include 19 Blacks, the most in history; also, the House of Reps will include 19 women in the new Congress . . The New York Times called the Reagan the new congress . . . The New York Times called the Reagan landslide "the most crushing rejection of an incumbent President and his Party since Herbert Hoover". . . The California Democratic Council and the Executive Committee of the California Democratic Party meeting this weekend at the Hacienda Hotel near L.A. airport in what promises to be a heavy, hard

promises to be a heavy, hard look at what is left of the Party in this state . . . incidentally, Nancy Pelosi now looks like new head of the Democratic Party in California (very doubtful that Bert Coffey will make complete, attempt) raty in California (very doubting the triangle of the Campaign for Economic Democracy (the Hayden-Fonda show) working hard throughout the state to capture up to 300 members of the State Demo Committee . . . the next meeting of the Stonewall Gay Demo Club is Monday, Dec. 1, at MCC Church . . . regarding the item on C.E.D. hoping to get control of the State Demo Party, that is to launch another Brown for President drive in 1984 . . Leonard Matlovich now selling Fords at S&C Motors . . Doug DeYoung probably won't run again for Treasurer of C.D.C. (they have too many financial problems — Treasurer of C.D.C. (they have too many financial problems—they're broke; and Doug has too many other things to think about) ... the same reason no doubt applies as the reason Frank Fitch isn't interested in running for President of CDC... Minnesota's Gay State Senator Alan Spear re-elected in that state, along with a Lesbian to the state legislature; both were known as openly Gay...

Dennis Peron (you know,



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Harry Britt

Violence and A March Against Violence

Face to Face

Back in the third grade at Robert E. Lee School in Port Arthur, Texas, our class sissy was a boy named Marvin. All the other boys teased Marvin; he wasn't really one of us, and only the girls in the class seemed able to accept him naturally as an equal. One Halnaturally as an equal. One Halloween night it got ugly. Robert, the class bully, was supposed to have a party at his house. The party didn't happen because Robert's parents had a bad fight that night. Robert looked real bad in front of his power and took his front of his peers and took his frustrations out on Marvin, using him as a punching bag while the others looked on.

about that night as I talked with about that night as I talked with Richard Christiansen, one of the two victims of the Dolores Park incident. No one would think of Richard as a "sissy," but obviously he was assumed to be Gay by the thugs who attacked him and was battered almost to death because he was not considered to be a real man deserving of human consideration.

We've heard and read a lot we've neard and read a for about the reasons for that cow-ardly attack. Young Latin kids are frustrated, we hear, be-cause of a lack of jobs and rec-reational opportunities. There is resentment over displace-ment of minority populations in the Mission

All of that is true, of course, but misses the point of the wave of recent attacks on Gay people. The one factor in all these attacks that needs to be recognized and dealt with is homophobia. Gays are assaulted with impunity on the streets of San Francisco because of the continuing inability of some continuing inability of some people to see us as human beings deserving of respect.

Richard Christiansen told me he bears no anger toward the

Latin youths who attacked him. He recognizes that press attempts to portray the problem as Gay vs. Latino are wrong. Only a tiny percentage of our population resorts to homophobic violence, and that small group includes people of homophobic violence, and that small group includes people of every race, nationality, and language background. Rather than stirring up mistrust be-tween our communities, our efforts should be directed at changing the climate and poli-cies in which homophobic vio-lence thrives

The way we do that is with political pressure. The police say they have no records of lice say they have no records of anti-Gay violence around Dolores Park. The Mayor says there's no evidence of a rise in violence directed against people because they're Gay. You don't have to have attended the powerful hearings before the Fire, Safety and Police Committee of the Board of Supervisors to know how preposterous these statements are posterous these statements are posterous these statements are—every Gay person knows better. Our anger over Dolores Park is there because it's part of an escalating pattern of homophobic violence, a pattern which must be recognized and challenged by everyone in a position of authority and influence in this city.

Chief Murphy has met with us and will be speaking out publicly about his concerns and specific steps to address the problem. The pressure must be kept up, however. Call me; call the other Supervisors, the DA, the Chief, and especially the Mayor. It is the Mayor who de fines police priorities in this city It is her office which must lead the offensive against homo-phobic violence. To date, her response has been to deny the problem and talk about committees. We're entitled to more, and will get more if we insist on real leadership.

THE Dennis Peron) calling tor Police Civilian Review Board initiative on ballot for sometime next year, with hope that the Board would be elected by Disrict . . . Mayor Feinstein to speak to the Tavern Guild on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 1pm at the Casa de Cristal . . . friends the Casa de Cristal . . . friends of Del Dawson holding a \$15 per person dinner at Delancey Street Restaurant on Union Street December 15 to help erase his campaign debt (821-3238 for info) . . Connie O'Connor slated to be the next Alica Praciates? Alice President? . . . and pressure on Gerry Parker to run again for another term as President of Stonewall Gay Demo

Club... Jack
Ballantine running against Bob
Barry for President of the POA
... so Anita Bryant says she
has kicked valiums but is now
into sleeping pills — but what
will Miami's Bob Kunst have
going for him if the Born-Again
Bigot Bryant suddenly decides
she wants to be nice to Gays?
Save it for those who want to
listen, Anita; I will never believe she's seen the light and
wants to "live and let live."
Anita Bryant is as vicious as
they come and no amount of
soul-searching will ever make
up for the thousands of lives
this woman and her hatred
have ruined — people like
Anita Bryant don't change;
they merely lie to you more they merely lie to you more with bigger smiles to make you

think they have changed . . . look for Maureen Reagan to run for U.S. Senate from California in 1982 . . . and how run for U.S. Senate from California in 1982 ... and how does this possible turn of events strike you: Terence Hallinan goes into court with his father, famed lawyer Vince Hallinan, to claim that a portion of the absentee ballots were, on a technicality, illegal; the court decides that ALL of the absentee ballots are invalid and have to be discounted; the result being that without the absentee ballots, Prop. N actually passed and the Supervisor lineup stays as status quo with passed and the Supervisor line-up stays as status quo with Bardis, Lawson and Horanzy keeping their seats and Hon-gisto, Nelder and Dolson shit out of luck. My guess is that the Hallinans are good lawyers and they wouldn't have filed a suit unless there was at least a chance (the irony: Hallinan loses his sought-after Super-visorial seat either way)... my sincerest Thanksdiving Day . my Day the visorial seat either way) . . . my sincerest Thanksgiving Day wishes to Harry Britt; the Kosmick Ladye; Dennis Peron; Herb Caen; Charles Pierce; Dick Hongisto; Milton Marks; Randy Alfred; Rivaldo, Pabich & Friends; Carolyn Reilly; John Bardis; Bill Maher; my barber from Graf's (Bill Lloyd); Jeff Jarvis; the Gangway's Roger Hall; and the loyal customers (all of whom are in one way or another political way or another politica experts) at the N'Touch. . .

C.U.A.V.

Contents **Under Pressure**

by Demian H.J. Damm

Many of us came to San Francisco with the hope that things here would be different things here would be different — more tolerant, easy-going, smoother, and the chance of finding a supportive network of friends, perhaps a lover suited to our needs. I came out here a year and a half ago by Greyhound bus, three thousand miles from Boston, with seventy bucks to me. The hard realities of surviving San Francisco, especially for the less affluent Gays of the city, is the theme of CONTENTS UNDER PRESSURE, produced by the Gay Theatre Collective.

The appearance of the spray-painted words "KILL QUEERS" on the front of the Victorian apartment building

OUR FUNDS AND SURVIVAL

AND SURVIVAL

Look Bleak. C.U.A.V.'s checking account is at a record low. What are our expenses? Rent, telephone, answering service, office supplies and expenses, flyer printing and distribution, fast pass, and lunch money for when Project Director deals with government bureaucracy. We are an all volunteer organization with no private or public funding. \$\frac{1}{2}\$ so membership application requests may be sent to P.O. Box 14406, S.F. 94114. Unless we get greater validation from the community for our efforts we may be forced to fold very shortly.



A recent victim of Gay bashing — attacked one block from the Balcony. Victim was attacked from behind — left with blackened eyes, broken nose, concussion and internal injuries. Another one of those "isolated incidents" as Mayor Feinstein would have it. (Photo by Rink)

releases pent-up emotions of the residents. Fear and rage fuse with the pain of lives of shared persecution. Steward's confronting Daniel pushes all of the characters into looking at what they have been doing their best not to seriously acknowledge.

C.U.A.V. laudes the Gay Theatre Collective both for an excellent piece of drama and for exploring the physical and psychological brutality of anti-Gay violence. Definitely a "MUST SEE" play. The play continues til November 30 at the Marina Theater, Third Floor of one of the converted pier buildings of Fort Mason. Tickets are \$5; for reservations and information call 776-8999.

POLICE IN THE PARKS

Due to an increase in rapes. Due to an increase in rapes, police presence in parks — in particular the Collingwood playground — will be increased. If you are found in the park after closing, the police will politely ask you for your ID, and if it's found in order you will be asked to leave if you do and it its found in order you will be asked to leave. If you do not have your ID, the police will take you down to the station. According to Jo Daly, our community's police commissioner, they are aware cruising goes on, and their intent is not to harse. to harass

MACE CERTIFICATION CLASSES

As you may know, C.U.A.V. regularly sponsors classes for certification to legally carry Mace (tear gas). Next scheduled classes are December 2 and 16 at 7pm, and December 13 and 20 at 10am, both at 117 Diamond Street. We encourage preregistration by mailing a check for \$30 to P.O. Box 14406, SF 94114. Indicate which class you are registering for. As you C.U.A.V. re may you are registering for.

A FEW OF THE LATEST

A **small** sampling of reports submitted to us over the last two weeks include:

18th in front of Dolores Park, 4:45pm, a Friday. Two Gay Mexican men got off the J-Church and were speaking in Spanish amongst themselves about Castro. Five straight Latino youths loitering by a car demanded to know where the victims were going, whether or not they were "homosexuals," threatened and then proceeded to beat them up. This all happened in Spanish.

Polk near City Hall, 2:30am, a Saturday. A gang of 12 against 4 Gay men.

Geary & Divisadero, 9:30pm, a Monday. Four at-tackers from a car stopped and assaulted a Gay man.

43rd & Noriega, 10:30pm, a Saturday. Four teens walking down the street asked the victim, "Are you a faggot?" Victim responded that he didn't see how it mattered. Assailants responded, "Well it does matter because it's in the bible!" and proceeded to throw the victim down on the street and kick him in his guts. The victim screamed and stumbled away.

Frederick between Masonic and Buena Vista West, 1am, a Saturday. Victim and friend left cab, and as it rounded the corner leaving the area a single punk in the vicinity yelled, "Hey, we got a couple of them!" Then a gang of five additional punks descended on victims. When neighbors heard ruckus, assailants fled.

Balboa & 31st, 11pm, a Friday. Two assailants got out of car, approached a beat a Gayman. Victim ran into a Mexican restaurant followed by assailants. Owner of restaurant chased assailants out. Victim gave license number to SFPD who appeared uninterested.

Noe & 19th. A home was arsoned one Friday; owner believes it to be an anti-Gay attack.

SFPD

Progressive Thinking

A Dog's Life

This recent exchange was re-present in the Gay Outreach ported in the Gay Outreach Program's News Update (Nov. 9). The Police Commission was discussing the marital status of prospective police dog hand-lers. The dogs are individually trained and live with their train-ers. The final decision was that dog handlers need not be mar-ried heterosexuals.

Police Chief "Con" Murphy wanted handlers to be married and with children to give the dogs "a normal family life." However, former Chief Al Nelder, now a police commissioner, noted that "with life styles being what they are today in being what they are today in San Francisco, cops can't be expected to meet the traditional values of family life to become dog handlers."

The Commission decided to allow unmarried officers to join the dog unit if they agreed to take their dogs to public places where they (the dogs?) could mingle with children and adults each month

Milk — A Candlelight March

On November 27, a Candlelight March Against Violence will be held, sponsored by the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club.

The March will assemble at Castro and Market at 7:30pm and is expected to reach Civic Center around 8:45pm. At City Hall there will be several speakers — Supervisor Harry Britt and Tavern Guild President Wayne Friday among them — in addition to performances by, among others, the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus, under the direction of Robin Kay Robin Kay.

Monitor training sessions have been set up for Monday, Nov. 24, and Wednesday, Nov. 26, at 6:30pm at Douglas School, 19th & Collingwood. For information on monitor training sessions call Richard Sevilla, 864-6751.

Thanksgiving Dinner

The Gay community is sponsoring its annual Senior Citizens' Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 27, from Noon to 4pm.

The dinner this year will be held at Trinity Church at Bush & Gough Streets. Donations of food and wine are being requested. If you would like to help, please contact Tessie at 441-9443 or Sweet William at 647-1559 for details and/or information.

Over 1,000 seniors are expected to attend, and we need lots of help and food to feed them. Thank you!





When Does A Restaurant Become An Institution?

PART II

IN THE FIRST OF THIS two-part investigation I concentrated on the front and back office management. My next stop was the kitchen where I spent most of an hour, talking to Executive Chef Surachai Rungpha, known about the premises as Chai. Chai is a 32-

Running into two out of town friends in the lobby of the War Memorial, I went through the initial barrage of inquiries -- "When did you get in town, what else are you doing besides the opera, how are things in Palo Alto . . .?"

"We got into town just this afternoon," answered Lee; "it's our seasonal pleasure binge — culture, sex, and good food."

"Where d' you have din-ner?" I followed — always curious as to what was news on the Gay dinner circuit.

'We did the *P.S. and loved it," said Lee's friend. Well ex-perienced in the ups and downs of local restaurants in the Gay circuit, I asked a few more questions on details. My friends seemed genuinely satisfied — the food, the service,

year old resident of the Richyear old resident of the Richmond with a wife and family. He learned his trade as a boy in his mother's 60-seat restaurant in Thailand; English he got from a Catholic school. From the family bistro he went to the airlines: Air France, Lufthansa, Alitalia, Pan Am — working with cargo and passengers. He and his bride arrived here in

the new decor. "You know," said my friend, "you couldn't always say that over the years; still when we come to San Francisco, we like to frequent the old favorites. When we visit Los Angeles, we experiment. This trip the "P.S. exceeded expectations Who!" sabind the expectations. Who's behind the changes. . .?"

A few days later ruminating over future feature story possibilities, I jotted down the final question of my tourist friend. What's happening with the *P.S.... what makes a restaurant survive season after season when scores come and go? Over the years I've heard good reports on the place, other times tales of disaster. The idea became more attractions The idea became more attractive and within a week I began making initial phone calls . . . relying on journalistic instincts and the time-honored formu-

1972 and he found his first job in the kitchens of the Hyatt Regency. Within 2½ years he worked up from cook to sous chef (or 2nd cook). Next stop was the popular MacArthur Park where he went from sous chef to executive chef in ½ years. From there he moved to Julius' Castle, again as sous chef. During this time he began

lae: Who, What, When, Why and How. The staff and management couldn't have been more tickled with my interest.

I talked to friends, to the new owners, to the managers, bartenders, the chef, the waiters, the patrons. I snooped around the patrons. I snooped around the premises — watching, absorbing, recording. Unnoticed I popped into lunch with a crowd of business types. Another time I made it in to dinner unannounced (I didn't want any special treatment). My aim was to soak un the experience. any special treatment). My aim was to soak up the experience, the formula. My conclusion: restaurants don't just happen; they are created. And when they become as big as the *P.S. and its three sister restaurants: The Casa de Cristal, The Mint, and Church Street Station—ach one filling a different control of the control Station — each one filling a dif-ferent need — that formula be-comes a complex geometry.

filling in at the *P.S. "They liked my performance," recalls Chai, "and they talked me into coming on as executive chef." It was January 1980 when Tom Waddell and his partners decided that the *P.S. cuisine needed a face lift.

As executive chef or head chef Chai is in control of the kitchens of both the *P.S. and the Casa de Cristal. He sets menus, oversees both kitchens; he controls kitchen personnel, he oversees food preparation (teaching his secrets and recipes and preventing waste).

"I don't use measurements," he said; "I do it by the feel of it." (I had finally found a cook after my own heart. . .) He passed on some of the hallmarks of a successful chef. "Sauces are very important... the look of the plate — it either looks wonderful or it looks dull, unappreting." On my own. unappetizing." On my own I discovered one of the delectables of the new "P.S. and its going to turn this restaurant around to be the best Gay res-taurant in town." And from the generally full house — week nights — he is well on his way to a dream come true

When I asked how one

At lunch the *P.S. is a different world. From 11am to 3pm ent world. From 11am to 3pm it caters to office workers, professionals, and Polk Street shoppers. Some regulars make it in five days a week, and it's not uncommon to run into City Hall politicos and any number of Gay celebs from Jose to David Scott.

Perhaps the *P.S.'s biggest is its \$2.99 Sunday brunch which began just a few months ago. Within three weeks of its start, they were serving over 300. The crowd lines up outside well before noon to take part in the bargain. Another new item hatched by Waddell is private luncheon parties at hew hem hatched by waddell is private luncheon parties at the Casa de Cristal. Among some of the groups have been the Softball League, a gang from the IRS, and a contingent from the American Geophysical Union.

From food I moved on to staff. I watched them work, talked with some without identifying myself. At any time the crew on the floor move fast. The waiters and busboys are uniformly neat as West Point cadets. They are courteous and they smile. they smile.

Listening to the employees of INSANDELL, I concluded any one of their four locations any one of their four locations is a good place to work. Polk-Way is comprised of the *P.S., Casa de Cristal, and Church Street Station. These three plus The Mint on upper Market Street employ 155 Gay men and women. Tom Waddell is rightly proud of his staff. As he puts it, "The kids work well with us and together."

The staff can trade shifts -



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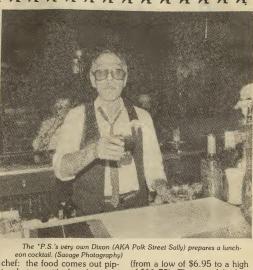
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Good News for Gays & Lesbians P.O. Box 11353 — San Francisco, CA. 94101



"Chai" or Chef Surachai Rungpha, part of the *P.S.'s overhaul to excel-ace. (Savage Photography)



ing hot — with the plates too hot to touch . . . while the salad plates are chilled (although — if I may venture — could be crispier. . .).

"My reputation is built on continental fare and seafood," he continued. "My secret and favorite is Veal Vittoria — a relative of Veal Scallopini," (except Chai's has special spices and pimento). "It begins with a bordelaise sauce and white uine — but more delicate." white wine — but more delicate
..." Before I knew it Chai was
giving me his recipe for Linguini Victoria — small pasta

(from a low of \$6.95 to a high of \$11.75). The top of the line is Rack of Lamb Bordelaise of which Chai says, "We have the best rack of lamb in town . . . we age our meat. That's why it's tender and delicate."

Another of Chai's hits is his dessert, Mud Pie — a chocolate ice cream pie topped with chocolate sauce (far from a dieter's special). "When one plans a menu, one has to know what's too heavy, what's too light, and what goes with what." One gets the impression that Chai is out to spoil his cus-tomers or, as he puts it, "I'm

The New *P.S.: a house committed to qualfood, courteous service, and reasonable

with shrimp and sauteed in white wine and with cream sauce to which mushrooms, garlic, and shallots have been added. "No one else in the city has that," he said. "After one learns cooking long enough, one puts something together and perfects it into a specialty."

Chai insisted that "every-thing is fresh every day and everything is done on the premises daily." Things are cooked to order which is a far cry from the plastic food which more and more predominates in local eateries. "I've been here eleven months now — never had a complaint on any food. We don't use cans."

When I asked how one decides on what the menu will be, Chai launched into an itemized list of his and the *P.S. specialties which range from Chicken Piccata to Calamari Siciliana

RRRRRRRRRRRRBB Barbara Cook



Tom Waddell and manager Bob Pose Photography)

although different crews spe-cialize in their shifts. The dinner crew are more formal; the lunch crew are fast and furious lunch crew are fast and furious, catering to those who must be back at their desks in 45 minutes to an hour. And as one *P.S. waiter puts it, "If the \$2.99 Sunday brunch gets any more popular, we'll have to get roller skates or conveyer belts..." Workers can also move from one restaurant to another

The employees' benefits have been steadily increased by the new management. They get health insurance after a year employment. One week vacation for the first two years, two weeks for years three and four, and three weeks for five years of service and beyond years of service and beyond.
"Next year," says Waddell,
"we will be establishing a trust
fund so that employees may
buy shares in the corporation."

According to Bob Posey the only time an employee cannot be tolerated is for drug abuse, alcohol on the job, and thiev-ery. The turnover for the staff is low, and in the office sits a basket full of job applications. Says Posey, "We have people coming in, looking for work all the time."

I cross-checked some of this with staff and their responses were uniformly supportive. Bartender Dixon was positively glowing — even after I told him we weren't making a commercial. Last spring an attempt was made to unionize the workers but it was unsuccessful. A vote was ordered, and the employees preferred to keep things as they were. This attempt was closely watched by Gay bar and restaurant owners and workers in the Bay Area. The general feeling is that Gay people resent outside non-Gay people telling them how to run their businesses or what they can or cannot do. Liberal Gays have traditionally supported labor causes and have sought to get unions not to discriminate against Gays — to date it to get unions not to discriminate against Gays — to date it has been another matter entire ly when union bosses have tried to organize in Gay busi-

DIXON — THE TICKET SELLER OF S.F.

One of the 'P.S.'s oldest employees is bartender Dixon, as he is known to his friends and admirers and as Polk Street Sally to the world at large. Dixon has been working at the 'P.S. for over nine years and at 55 is referred to by his co-workers and fans as "the world's oldest living sex object."

Dixon has worked along Polk Street for 25 years — as a decorator, as a bartender, as a salesman. For three years he tended bar at The Web, a year at the original Yacht Club. He spent time at the original Q.T. To Dixon tending bar is like being on stage; hence he hasn't

veered too far from his college veered too far from his college-days ambition of speech and drama. He says, "I can step away from myself and watch myself work — some days I'm really 'on,' some days the act looks tired." Dixon feels that the 'P.S.'s oval-shaped bar is one of the finest physical bars in the city. Everyone can see everyone else and the bartend-er is at the center of the action.

Dixon puts in four shifts a week, Thursday through Sunday. With over 300 jamming in for Sunday brunch — and the preliminary cocktail or two — he covers a lot of mileage for an "aging actress." He notes, "I know so many people on the street — we pride ourselves on providing a good time for our customers." For Dixon this means keeping going a jovial customers." For Dixon this means keeping going a jovial banter, directing tourists to the best baths, selling tickets for the Beaux Arts Ball, in the past writing the occasion social column for the Gay gossip circuit. "We are hosts," he says. "Often we're the first stop for people from around the world. Where to go, what to do. For me the "P.S. is a kind of bar or restaurant I would go to if I were traveling."

Hence to this jovial native of San Jose, the bar at the *P.S. is both his stage and his second living room. Add to all that it's a good job. "We adore the new owners . . . they are young, they are hard workers. We are excited about the place. It's a Class A house!"

On the major holidays — Halloween, Easter, Valentine — the staff gets together to decide on a theme and stays up one whole night to decorate the bar and restaurant. The next day's customers are greeted with a transformed bar and a made-up and costumed staff.

This year Dixon for the first time entered the competition at the Beaux Arts Ball as a singles entry. He won a prize. When asked how many years he entry. He won a prize. When asked how many years he thinks he will go on tending bar — he laughs along, "Five, maybe six, maybe three — as long as my body holds up . . . "
Or as Mehitabel the cat was wont to tell Archie the cock-roach, "tourjours gai, tourjours gai, there's life in the old gal

And like Mehitabel the *P.S. follows the same formula: you might have been knocking around for a long time — but you never rest on your laurels — for success can only exist in the now.

Paul-Francis Hartmann

Did you wait too long to look for the last issue? **SUBSCRIBE TO** THE B.A.R.

to Feature **New Material** in Concert

When singer Barbara Cook makes her return to San Francisco in concert at Davies Symphony Hall on Friday evening, Nov. 29, her program will include a host of material from her recently recorded album, plus favorite songs from her two previous Columbia her recently recorded album, plus favorite songs from her two previous Columbia albums. Titled "It's Better With A Band," the new album, due out before the end of the year, was recorded live at Barbara's recent concert in New York's Carnegie Hall. Thus her San Francisco audience will be hearing for the first time some witty and wonderful songs composed for Barbara by her longtime conductor-arranger-musical director, Wally Harper, plus a range of lovelies such as "One Hand, One Heart" from WEST SIDE STORY, Noel Coward's "If Love Were All," "I Never Knew That Men Cried" and a delicious rendition of "Them There Eyes" with star tuba player Sam Pilafian, and Barbara, displaying her prowess on the kazoo (I), having a musical go at the old favorite.

Tickets for the 8:30pm con-Tickets for the 8:30pm concert on November 28 are available at Davies Hall Box Office (Grove and Van Ness in San Francisco) and at all major agencies. Ranging in price from \$17.50 to \$8.00, tickets may be charged by phone to Visa and Mastercard, by calling (415) 431-5400.

Sponsors Needed

MCC's Gay & Lesbian Refugee Program is in urgent need of sponsors to resettle remaining refugees now at Fort Chaf-fee, Arkansas. A group of friends or organizations can band together to assist finan-

For information contact Rev. Robert M. Falls at 863-4434.

To date over 150 Gay Cubans have been relocated in the Bay Area. Generally speak-ing, the program has been a

"Gay Switchboard Day" **Declared**

The borough president of Manhattan, Andrew Stein has issued a Proclamation declaring January 13, 1981, "Gay Switchboard Day" in Manhattan. On that date, the Switchboard will begin its tenth year of service to New York's Gay and Leshian community. Lesbian community

Gay Switchboard of New York, Inc., is the oldest con-tinuously operated and one of the busiest homophile helplines in the world. More than 90 volin the world. More than 90 vol-unteers answer tens of thou-sands of calls each year. While the majority of calls come from the New York metropolitan area, calls and mail requests are received from around the world.

Hours of the Switchboard are from noon to midnight daily, (212) 777-1800.



Valerie Miller, star of the Chuck Largent musical productions at Chez Jacques, will be appearing Wednesday evening, December 3, at Sutro Bath House as part of the Wednesday night cabaret series.

Valerie will be followed on December 10 by Lynn Eldredge, star of "Champagne in a Cardboard Cup," and on December 17 by a special Christmas show with an all-star cast, produced by John Trowbridge.



OC Skate Nite

Operation Concern has scheduled OPERATION ROLLER DISCO FOR Tuesday, Nov. 25, 7-11pm at Le Park Roller Club, 555 South Van Ness (between 16th & 17th Streets). The price is \$5 per person, skates free, with a no host bar and food.

All proceeds will go to Oper-ation Concern, a mental health clinic for Lesbians and Gay



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BAY AREA REPORTER

NOV. 20, 1980

ART AUCTION FOR MCC A pre-Christmas art auction will be held on Friday, Dec. 5, at the Ellen Driscoll Playhouse, 325 Highland Avenue, Piedmont, as a benefit for the Metropolitan Community Church of the East Bay. Previewing of the oils, watercolors, graphics, and other media will be from 7 to 8pm, with the auction beginning at eight.

with Nez Pas

OAKLAN

THE LATEST ON G.O.A.I..

Gay Oakland Action League Gay Oakland Action League held its second open meeting at the Metropolitan Community Church in Oakland. There were 17 people in attendance, 12 of whom were members.

Several matters were discussed regarding projects and ideas for making G.O.A.L. operational. Included in the open forum were:

- 1. A directory of businesses, services, professional practices, etc., either Gay owned or catering to the Gay community.
- 2. Implementing an aware-ness program between the Gay community and the Oakland Police Department.

COCKTAILS .

SUNDAY BRUNCH -

3. Compiling data on sexual harassment for a study now being done

4. An Organizational Training Program by a member.

5. Opening of nominations for all offices, since the current Steering Committee is acting as officers pro tem. Nominations will close on December 9.

The next meeting will be in December — time and location to be posted in the Oakland bars and in the MCC.

Consideration is being given to the formation of another Mace class, as interest is growing . . . especially from many across the Bay!

custom framed. Along with works of talented young artists, also featured will be - representations of the masters, such as Dali, Picasso, Miro, Chagall, and award-winning artists Lambert, Bragg, Caldwell, Bruce, Hollingsworth, Taubert, and Fortuny.

There will be inexpensive pieces appropriate for Christmas gifts, plus works by recognized artists suitable for investment purposes. Each piece is

ning at eight.

The auction will be conducted by The Collier Art Corporation, the largest benefit art auction, the largest derient and auction company of its kind, which purchases fine art throughout the world at incredibly low prices. Low opening bids are typical at their auctions.

A sample from Collier's collection will be offered as a door prize; refreshments will be served; and a \$1 donation will be requested. For information call MCC East Bay in Oakland at (415) 533-4848.

ROYALTY ON THE RANGE?

Now to be seen and appreciated at the Beef-Eater is none other than Oakland's own Fat (thin?) Farie, helping out with the cooking duties along with Jim and Fred. I understand she can wield a pretty mean skillet, so her culinary contributions so her culinary contributions should be something to behold ... and eat!!!

CLUBS' CONVOCATION

As mentioned in my last col-umn, all the Oakland bar ownumn, all the Oakland bar owners met and conferred two weeks ago. The bar owner requesting the meeting did not show up (!), so it was decided upon by those present to have the meeting anyway. Many items were cussed and discussed, and poor Robert's Rules of Order peur had such a touch Order never had such a tough

One of the major items of in-terest was the lack of commuterest was the lack of commu-nication between the bars themselves. It was agreed that more effort must be put forth in this area. Joint advertising ventures are a possibility, and one of the representatives from the Bacchanal volunteered to do the graphics (including a do the graphics (including a map to pinpoint all the local

Also mentioned was a Gay Business Directory for the East Bay. (Perhaps someone in the group should contact G.O.A.L.?????)

Better cooperation with the Police Department was also emphasized as being of a para-

Any kind of "Professional rganization" was tabled until bars in Oakland could be present. Another meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 1, at which time a more permanent format should be estab-

TUPPERWARE TRIUMVIRATE

Congratulations to the prize winners in Revol's recent Tupperware Party. Winning third place was Empress II Lady Carla; second place was Jay; and the big first prize (a set of Corning Cookware) was won by everybody's favorite, Kathy!

ON THE LOCAL SCENE

Lancers announced hours of operation. They will open daily at 4pm, with disconightly from 9 to 2, with a \$1 cover charge. The first 50 patrons will get a drink ticket with their admission.

Lancers Holiday hours (with disco) will be: Thanksgiving, 8 to 2; Christmas Eve, 6 to 2; Christmas night, 8 to 2.

Lancers annual Christmas Party will be on Sunday, Dec. 21, from 4 to 2. They will have their fabulous complementary buffet

Watch for Lancers new "face lift," outside AND in. Also, the Jockey Shorts Contest may be revived, and they will do it!

Lake Lounge announces its Third Annual Thanksgiving Day Buffet from 10:30 in the morning to 2am.

Lake Lounge will be open Christmas Day from 10:30 on, with their usual outstanding buffet for all to feast upon!

The Beef-Eater will be closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Revol will open at 4pm on Thanksgiving, with the traditional turkey and all the trimmings being served from 4 to 9. The sit-down dinner is only \$5, and reservations are requested, (415) 652-7144.

Revol's Christmas Eve dinners will be served from 5 to 10pm (reservations requested), and the dining room will be closed on Christmas night. The bar will offer its Christmas Day special — Schnapps for \$1.

Revol will serve dinners on New Year's Eve from 6 to 11 m. In the bar will be prize drawings (lots of them!), hats and noisemakers at midnight, complementary champagne to toast in the New Year, and CHILI to toast your insides!

Revol will have its "Hang-over Brunch" on New Year's Day from noon to 4, complete with champagne. There will also be a buffet in the dining room New Year's night from 7 to 10pm for \$4.50 per person.

As of press time, no other ars have made available their Holiday time schedules.

THE WEST GOES FARTHER WEST!

Congratulations to the senior bartender of Lancers for being named to an official title. Shawn is the newly-elected Gay Deputy Gay Sheriff II of Oakland. Ride 'em, cowboys! Gee, that can be taken more than one way; can't it?????

A WESTERNER GOES SOUTH/EAST

"Zephyr Jim" has a new position . . . oops! . . . job. (He ALWAYS uses the same posi-tion.) It was announced that he is the new manager of Big Mama's in Hayward. Does that mean he won't lie on Monday nights anymore???

Have the happiest of Holidays and holidaze . . . love

Random Notes

SACRAMENTO

The Grand Opening of the Wreck Room this past weekend was a huge success. If the management and staff of the Wheel Room extracts Wreck Room continue to make everyone feel as welcome as they did during the grand opening, they will have a hot establishment.

The Investiture of Empress VII Joey and Emperor VII Steve will be held at the Brave Bull, December 7 at 1:30pm. There is no charge, and a free buffet will be in the offering. The Coronation of Steve and Learning and the strength of the st Joey was one of teh best run in the history of Modesto. There was no noticeable problem with the sound: the ground was the sound; the crowd was friendly and fun-loving; and, most importantly, they only ran eight minutes over schedule

The Brave Bull will be having a dance contest every Wednesday from now until Christmas, with the winners to vie for best dancer on December 21, the Sunday before Christmas.
There is a cash prize for the
finalists, and a buffet. Every
Wednesday there will be free
hot dogs during the contest.

Need something or somebody? Take out a B.A.R. Classified Ad

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GREATER BAY NEWS NOV. 20, 1980 PAGE 16

NTERTAINM

COCK. OPERA. INTERVIEWS. BOOKS. MUSIC. THE ARTS. STAGE. SCREEN. SHOWS. ROCK.

Historic Musical Benefits on Both Coasts

From the Gay Band to "Bubbles"

by George Heymont

Fundraisers are an important key to the survival of any musical organization. In recent weeks I attended two benefit performances which were linked to historic events of awe-some magnitude. Each had its own sense of fun, gaiety, and perhaps a touch of nonsense. Each had some musical flaws. But there could be no question that BEVERLY: HER FARE-WELL, and COMMAND PERFORMANCE were milestones for their respective musicians. for their respective musicians

The Sills gala (which will be televised on PBS in January) marked the retirement of an American institution from the operatic stage. Although Beverly Sills may have personally deplored any big celebration of her retirement, in her new capacity as General Director of the New York City Opera she saw a chance to exploit the event as a massive fundraiser for her company. The evening netted close to a million dollars.

On a smaller financial, but more important political, scale, COMMAND PERFORMANCE netted close to \$50,000 to be shared between the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Gay Rights Advocates, two worthy organizations in our community. Gay Rights Advocates proudly announced last week's triumph over the Department of Immigration Services' recent homophobic activities. The event also marked the first time in the history of the nation that a musical group of upfront Lesbians and Gay men performed on the stage of a major American symphony hall. The cheering and screaming from the audience was an outburst of communal pride, enthusiasm, and the recognition of an extra-special achievement in the history of Gay culture. On a smaller financial, but

There were moments when tears were shed. Tears started to flow in a gut reaction to the poetry of music when James Galway crossed to the side of

the stage in Lincoln Center and the stage in Lincoln Center and played a special chorus of "Danny Boy" for Bubbles. Tears of exultation streamed down the cheeks of the audience in Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall at the mere sight and sound of the Gay Band warming up onstage.

Both audiences were dressed to the hilt. If one is used to seeing blue-haired ladies at theater parties, rest assured that minks and sables were traded for black leather and tails in San Francisco. If the N.Y. State Theatre saw the best-dressed audience in its history, Davies Hall certainly had the best-looking crowd any symphony hall has seen in years!

And each event had its bizarre, funny moments. Mayor Dianne Feinstein teasing Jon Sims that there weren't enough Lesbians in the structure of the band to come close to the chutzpah of Renata Scotto singing "Somewhere Over The Rainbow" in what she calls "the Verdi style." (I'm convinced that Scotto has been told that the flags on Fire Island flew at half-mast when Judy Garland died and Renata is determined to lay a firm foundation for the day when she goes to the great opera house in the sky!) And each event had its

Similarly, a chorus line of Lesbians and Gay men in black tie tap-dancing their way across the stage of the Symphony Hall was every bit as classy as Bobby Short accompanying Eileen Farrell in the blues from behind his white baby grand. Just as Jon Sims knows how to put on a show with plenty of trash and flash, so did the veterans at the Sills gala know how to milk every minute onhow to milk every minute on-stage for all it was worth.

A quick look at the stage revealed Mary Martin, Ethel Merman, Carol Burnett, Dinah Shore, Renata Scotto, Eileen Farrell, Leontyne Price, Placido Domingo, Sherrill Milnes,

and other friends clustered around Beverly Sills. Shared among those performers was a history of entertainment electricity which could short-circuit Con Edison. 3,000 miles to the west, Davies Hall was bursting its seams with the exuberance of a community flushed with pride at its achievements. Both events were historic nights filled with love for the musicians on-stage. stage.

There were some flaws in both presentations, to be sure, but these were the kinds of things for which one pretty much shrugs and looks the other way. The Sills gala was milked to the teeth — a bit of a shock for most of the audience. The vocal selections had less to do with opera than with Broadway pops. The flavor of the evening was more like a gala New Year's Eve celebration than a tribute to one of America's most beloved classical musicians. But perhaps partying was more in order that night than sentimental tears.

Playing Davies Hall legitimized the Gay Freedom Day Band in more ways than one. Alas, Jon Sims' lethargic conducting laid bare every bit of vulnerability his musicians possess. While the Band has great success with "The Theme from Superman" or Morton Gould's "American Salute," there is no escaping the fact that when tackling the symphonic band arrangements for such works as Tchaikovsky's "Capriccio Italien" and Holst's "First Suite in E Flat," Sims gets lost in muddy sound.

Some of this is caused by the Some of this is caused by the overwhelming effect of all wind instruments, unbalanced by any strings. But the slow tempos in which Sims drags his feet do more damage to the efforts of his musicians than he knows. It is a problem endemic to the orchestrations and to the efforts of less than full-time professional musicians.



Going out in a blaze of glory: Beverly Sills (shown here as Adele in the San Diego Opera's production of DIE FLEDERMAUS) will now crack the whip at the New York City Opera as General Director of the company

This is not knocking the Band's efforts one bit. I do not want to be accused of spitting on loverhood and Gay apple pie! What I am pointing out is that, in light of the Band's recent achievements, it is time for more effort coming from the more effort coming from the podium to add some musical polish to the Band's perform-

A handy parallel can be drawn to the regular tenants of Davies Hall, the San Francisco Symphony. In an important step in their growth as a major orchestra, the Symphony recently played Carnegie Hall for the first time in 33 years.

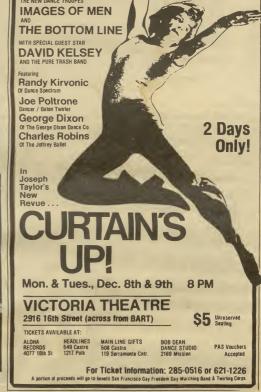
IT'S THE HOTTEST

They were not well-received by the New York press, who see every orchestra under the sun and have had Beethoven's 5th (Continued on Page 22)

> Charles Gordone's Pulitzer Prize Winning NO PLACE
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> Dec 4-7
> Thurs-Sat 8 pm
> Sunday 2 pm The Victoria Theatre 2961 16th Street/SF 415-863-7576

REVUE IN TOWN!





Gay Band Captivates Symphony Hall

by Allen White

Sunday, November 9, 1980, will be recorded as the date of another landmark event in Gay history. For the first time an openly Gay musical organization performed in a major symphony hall in America. The 3,225 seat Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall was sold-out for a performance by the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps. (George Heymont, the Fine Arts Editor, reviews the performance elsewhere in this issue.)

The audience, which started arriving at 7PM for a champagne promenade, represent-

ed all of San Francisco. As few gatherings are capable of doing, this event reflected the style and the character of virtually all hues of this city's Gay rainbow. The hundreds who arrived in black tie were balanced by the hundreds dressed in Levis and up-town clone attre. One creative gentleman arrived wearing a hat constructed in the design of Davies Symphony Hall (we can only hope he removed it before he sat down for the concert). As the building filled, the cascading stairs in the lobby emphasized the numbers of people gathered prior to this concert. The feeling was one of anticipation which one treats with respect as

Limos and black ties join with Gay casual at Davies Hall Band concert. (Photo by Rink)



one realizes one is a part of something special.

That sense of anticipation was increased as one entered the hall itself. The view of layers of people in the various balconies was truly a spectacular sight.

Just after 8PM the house lights dimmed. The feeling of mystery gave way to the emotional realization that the moment had arrived. Before a note was played, the entire audience rose to its feet in a moment of cheers and applause as they acknowledged the event. It was a tribute to the members of the Band, to the Gay Rights Advocates, but most importantly, to every single person who was gathered together in the Symphony Hall. With that, the program began.

gram began.

Following the intermission, Harold Snedcof, the man who headed the committee to present this event, gave the nitty-gritty facts and figures. 1) It was the first time in history a musical organization composed of Lesbians and Gay men had ever performed in a major symphony hall in America. 2) The event was sold out Sunday night and he projected that the Tuesday night performance would also be a sell-out. 3) The Gay Rights Advocates and the Band would split the profit estimated for the two events at \$52,000. This makes one of the largest Gay fund-raising affairs ever presented.

Harold Snedcof then introduced the Mayor of San Francisco. She proclaimed the day "Gay Rights Advocates Appreciation Day."

This historic evening meant many things to many people. To the Gay Rights Advocates it was a most honorable way to acknowledge their major contributions to the Gay community and to individual members of that community. One of those individuals is Carl Hill from England. You may recall his problems in June of 1979 when he was admitted to the United States only after intervention by the Gay Rights Advocates. Denial of his entry into the country was based solely on his admitting his homosexuality. Carl Hill was at the concert.

Following the event we discussed his impressions. He emphasized what so many in San Francisco might take for granted. In England, he stated, this event simply wouldn't happen, nor would the Mayor be in attendance. He noted that there were times during the evening



One concert-goer wears a Davies Hall model on his head. (Photo by Rink)

when he was brought to tears.

In the audience were many reviewers for several publications. The San Francisco Examiner gave what can be termed a "rave" review.

The San Francisco Chronicle chose not to review the performance.

I talked to Robert Commanday, the Music Editor of the Chronicle. The decision to review or not to review is his. He stands by his decision and his reasons. His reasoning for his decision is primarily two-fold. First, the Band is a non-professional group. Notwithstanding the popularity of the organization, he puts the group into this amateur category. Realizing that there are more non-professional groups in the area than the paper is staffed to review, it is Commanday's decision to randomly select what they will and will not review. Secondly, he was very much aware of the event but felt its importance was primary social and political rather than musical. So, agree or disagree, that is the reasoning behind the decision not to have a review in the San Francisco Chronicle.

Many did not agree. We have learned that the Chroni-

cle's music department was inundated with phone calls. So
many calls that I was told there
was almost a sort of backlash
forming at the Chronicle. I
chose not to question Mr.
Commanday's decision, but I
would point out that in the
more than two years existence
of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and
Twirling Corps, they have
never ever been reviewed or
featured in the San Francisco
Chronicle. Other than a listing
in the Datebook section,
Chronicle readers' awareness
of the concert must be isolated
to comments by Herb Caen
relating to the waiting time in
the women's rest rooms. It
would not seem unreasonable
to think that San Francisco's
largest newspaper could not
have found some satisfactory
way to give coverage to this
event.

The COMMAND PER-

The COMMAND PERFORMANCE is now history. Two comments by two people possibly best sum up this premiere evening. San Francisco entertainer Michelle commented, "I would wake up with envy if I hadn't been there." The other remark was made by Carl Hill. He said, "It's nice to be a part of the Gay movement but it's also nice to see the rewards." Indeed!

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Viola & Violin Players Wanted

If you play the viola or the violin, Lambda Pro Musica is looking for you. The group is starting to expand these music sections and is looking for people who wish to participate.

Lambda Pro Musica is a member of Golden Gate Performing Arts. GGPA is the umbrella organization for the Gay Freedom Day Band, the Gay Men's Chorus, the Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus as well as Lambda Pro Musica, Those interested should contact the GGPA office at 864-0326 or by writing to P.O. Box 14665, San Francisco 94114.

One-Woman Show

ALL THE WOMEN SHARE THE WELL is the second in a series of one-woman shows written and performed by Batya Podos with original music written by Stacia Cusulos. The voices of the past and present intertwine in this story of a Hebrew woman whose life is changed in a startling way through her encounter with the Goddess Astarte.

ALL THE WOMEN SHARE THE WELL will be performed Wednesday, Dec. 3, at 8:30pm in the Ibsen Room of the Women's Building (18th & Valencia). Admission is \$3. Childcare is available by calling the Women's Building for reservations.

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Gay Stage:

Theatre Rhinoceros Scores With A Comedy

by Mark Topkin



(L to R) Virginia Lombard, Alan Herma (Photo by Rink) David Baker. and Priscilla Huddleston in POWER LINES

The laughs abound in Theatre Rhinoceros' POWER LINES, and the laughs are on us. Two relationships, one Gay and one Lesbian, are explored alone and together in Joel Schwartz's three-act comedy, and the combination of funny large and realitic insights. lines and realistic insights sparks a thoroughly satisfying evening of Gay theater.

Set in the small town of El Segundo, somewhere south of L.A., Act One introduces us to Meg and Chrys, lovers, and

waitresses at a local Italian restaurant. At home in their dump of a flat, they explore the possibilities of escaping from their dead-end existence and dream about foreign travel and exciting careers.

In Act Two we meet Jack and Lenny, who appear to be a Marine officer and his disciplined recruit. Jack, in reality, is a chef at the same Italian restaurant for which Meg and Chrys work. Lenny is a visitor from out of town who has answered Jack's B&D ad in *The Advo-*

cate. Their relationship develops as they move in and out of the B&D scene.

Both acts are about power and how its shift from one partner to the other affects each re-lationship. Schwartz's craftsmanship as a playwright serves him well and the POWER LINES get crossed and un-crossed with humorous results that never overstep the reality of the situations.

In Act Three, both couples get locked together in the res-taurant's freezing pantay and the theme of power is further explored as the four try to make the best of their frigid fate.

The acting rose to the occasion, and though some unevenness prevails, especially in Act One, it is not distracting. Virginia Lombard is particularly sharp in Act Three with her one-liners. Her Meg is straight out of the Italian section of South Philadelphia. Alan Herman as the visitor who may have gotten tied up in more than he bargained for has a never-ending wealth of facial expressions that range from adorable to hilarious.

POWER LINES runs through November 22 at the Goodman Building, 1115 Geary at Franklin. Call 776-1848 for information and reservations. POWER LINES is 150 watt Gay entertainment. Go and laugh at yourself.

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Blonde Sin

The forces of fun, feminism and female impersonation combine to present BLONDE SIN, a play with music about life behind the scenes and on stage at the famous Fishnet Club.

See Doris Fish and the Sluts A-Go-Go with Timmy Spence and very special guest Jane Dornacker at the Hotel Utah, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, Nov. 20, 21, 22, and Friday and Saturday the 28th and 29th. Shows at 9:30 and 11:30 with one show at 10:00 on Thursday, Nov. 20. Tickets are \$4, \$3 on Thursday.

Says their press release, "Don't miss this stunning expose of the sin they left out of the Bible . . . BLONDE SIN."

North Beach Comedy

Faultline Comedy Theatre, San Francisco's newest comedy revue, will be performing Saturdays November 22 and 29 at the Savoy Tivoli, 1438 Grant Avenue, in San Francisco's North Beach. No politician, media event, or social situation is safe from Faultline; bitting blend of scripted satire, musical mockery, and improvisation. Faultline Comedy Theatre starts their show at 8pm followed at 10pm by the best in local Regaga. Come see the Faultline Comedy Theatre at the Savoy Tivoli, November 22 and 29. Admission \$3.

Pop: **Up, Coming & Choice**

By Adam Block

BLONDE SIN: An outrageous production featuring female impersonators of both genders including the legendary Doris Fish and Jane Dornacker. And you thought "My Fair Lady" was hot. (Hotel Utah - Nov. 21 & 22, 28 & 29 - Tel: 673-2621)

LEO KOTKE: The master of acoustic six and twelve string guitar brings a joyful lucidity to work that ranges from Bach to Tom T. Hall along with deft compositions of his own. Kotke breathes new life through traditional American idioms in a style that is as modest as affecting. (Old Waldorf - Nov. 21 - 8 & 11pm - \$7.50 adv, \$8.50 door)

BOB DYLAN: A last chance to catch an artist as incomparable as incorrigible. There is an acoustic set of chestnuts, a hefty serving of his cowboy-gospel, and I'm looking forward to "Abraham, Martin, and John" on November 22. From the haunting to the preposterous — the man still moves me. (Warfield · Nov. 21 & 22 · 8pm · \$12.50 & \$15.50)

JAMES BROWN: The Godfather of Soul has lately been claimed as an inspiration not only to the P-Funk battalions of post-disco space-funk, but new wavers from James Chance to Talking Heads. His original show-stopping torque is available on Solid Smoke's recent reisue of his '62 LIVE AT THE APOLLO disc. His current show will be hitting the clubs like a jackhammer. (Stone - Nov. 22& 23 - 8& 11pm - \$8.50 adv, \$10 day)

CHARLES PIERCE: The man who brought bawdy art to drag will resurrect Bette, Tallulah, Judy, and a full motley of others — complete with films and puppets — at our most elegant cabaret. (Plush Room, Hotel York · 9:30 & 11pm · Nov. 21-23 & Nov. 25-30 · 55)

DOC & MERLE WATSON, DAN CRARY: Doc is our greatest country traditional guitar picker and his son is no mean shadow. The wondrous Appalachains, the sadness of pines — the fierce wisdom of bible and moonshine down a soulful road from Walton Mountain. (Great American Music Hall - Nov. 29 · 8& 10:30pm · \$7)

JESSE COLIN YOUNG: The tawny-voiced urban blues singer and founder of the Youngbloods has come to rest up in the bucolic redwoods where he sometimes sounds as if his songs were commissioned by the Pt. Reyes Chamber of Commerce. The voice remains wondrous and it comes from the heart, if not the guts. (Boarding House - Nov. 25-29 - Thanksgiving Dinner available - 8& 11pm - \$7.50, Fri& Sat \$10)

SIOUXSE AND THE BANSHEES, DOA, TBA: The headliner hit SIOUXSE AND THE BANSHEES, DOA, TBA: The headliner hit the UK punk explosion hard in the chops with a bared-teeth caterwauling attack that earned lots of attention. Her latest disc is downright melow with assists from Magazine guitarist John T. McGeogh and former Sex Pistol Steve Cook. Dunno if they'll be on the road, but DOA still boasts the interminable, as I live and breathe, Joey Shithead. It's Siouxse's first visit out here, and the cognoscenti wouldn't dream of missing it. I'll be in Texas. (California Hall - Nov. 26 - 8pm - \$7 adv)

PETER ALLEN, NANCY PARKER: Allen's wry, gay cabaret is points above the maudlin histrionics of Barry Manilow, but not that far afield. When he isn't trying too hard the man can be deeply affecting, but comic Parker may be the surprise triumph of the evening. Bound to be entertaining. (Old Waldorf - Nov. 28&29 - 8&11pm - \$9.50 adv.

MUTANTS, LEGAL WEAPON, TBA: This is the token, occasional notice in tribute to the Bay Area's most unlikely talents that refuse to die. I'd rather their indulgences than the Tubes' any day. The 29th, the show will be preceded (at 9:30) by the Outrageous Beauty Contest as Dirksen & Co. continue to subvert fashion. (Mabuhay - Nov. 28 & 29 - 11pm - \$4)

EMMYLOU HARRIS & THE HOT BAND, RODNEY CROWELL: LA's country waif princess takes to the revolving stage, with her hu band — a fine songwriter and mighty underwhelming performer opening. Could be tertible, but I'll still be in Texas. You decide. (Circ Star Theatre - Nov. 29&30 - Sat. 7:30&11pm, Sun. 7:30 - \$8.75)

RALPH TOWNER & JOHN ABERCROMBIE: The guitar master FALPH TOWNER & JOHN ABERCAROADL. The glass law-from the band Oregon joins forces with another great jazz contemporary in a series of duets. If the concert scales the heights of their '76 Ip SARAGOSSA SEA, this oughta be breathtaking. Unfortunately, I'll be in LA. (Great American Music Hall - Dec. 3 - 8& 11pm - \$6.50)

GORE VIDAL: I know he's a home, but is it Rock? Still awake out there? (Marin Civic Center - Dec. 4 - 8pm - \$5)

BUY EARLY — STEVIE WONDER will be at the Cow Palace December 6, and if you want a good seat you had better hop to it. Jim Carroll will touch down at the Old Waldorf the same night. Pick your



Gay Stage:

A Giddy Matinee From **Theatre Rhinoceros**

New Plays by Curzon and Yeomans

by Mark Topkin



Richard Staven (L) and Thomas Mark in Dan Curzon's BEER AND RHUBARB PIE, a Theatre Rhinoceros one-act. (Photo by Xero)

In addition to its regular season, Theatre Rhinoceros is currently offering a pair of oneacts at weekend matinees. Originally scheduled to run through last weekend, the plays have been extended to the end of the month, and the \$3.50 admission buys an hour's Gay experience that is both erotic and tender.

The hour opens with "The Line Forms to the Rear," a character study by Cal Yeomans. The character is Henry (Blaine Souza) who, at a way-side cruising area, pauses to tell us about himself: Once a female impresentate; in a south sus about himself: Once a fe-male impersonator in a south-ern Gay club, now living with his mother in a trailer park and performing "mercy sex" on all comers, Henry remains on the edge of a nervous breakdown while trying to decide on life's next step. Souza takes some time to warm up his character, but he gives us moments of reality as he moves from anger to despair to camp recollections of his past.

The meat of the afternoon, though, is Daniel Curzon's "Beer and Rhubarb Pie." Set in a kitchen in San Francisco we meet Len, a Gay man living meet Len, a Gay man living with an unseen roommate, and Fernando, a Cuban repairman who has come to do some work for Len. Fernando is a macho Latino who struts about the room spouting on about his wife, three kids, and his sexual prowess. Yet there is a hint of another need in Fernando's life — one that perhaps Len could fulfill.

Richard Staven as Len and Thomas Mark as Fernando are Inomas Mark as Fernando are two very attractive actors and under Dan Turner's direction they play an ever-building game that is riveting in its eroticism, making "Beer and Rhubarb Pie" a stunning rendition of the macho Latino seduction fantasu.

For reservations and information about this double bill call 776-1848. It is a sure sign of the growth in quality of Gay theater.



Blaine Souza in Cal Yeomans' THE LINE FORMS TO THE REAR, nou through December 7 at Theatre Rhinoceros.

A B.A.R. Gift Subscription may not be the ideal holiday gift, but it's a sure useful one.

Gay Choruses Holiday Show

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Men's Community Chorus will jointly present NOW SING WITH HEARTS AGLOW, a holiday musical celebration, at 7:30pm on Sunday, Dec. 21, and Wednesday, Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve) at Nourse Auditorium, Hayes and Franklin Streets, in San Francisco.

The two choruses, the Men's Chorus under the direction of Dick Kramer and the Lesbian & Gay Men's Community Chorus under Robin Kay, will present both Chanukah and Christmas music, ranging from the liturgical and sacred to modern pieces, as well as sentimental holiday favorites. The Chamber Choruses, two small ensemble groups comprised of select members from each of the larger choruses, will also perform.

The formal section of each concert will end with a joint performance by both choruses of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus." The concerts will conclude with the audience joining in on renditions of "Sielent Night," "Adeste Fideles" and "White Christmas."

Presented in cooperation with Golden Gate Performing Arts Association, the reputation of these two choruses for tion of these two choruses for the excellence of quality and diversified entertainment has proven to be a source of support and pride for the Gay community as well as a highly-effective and rewarding link with the San Francisco and Bay Area compunities. Area communities

These musical celebrations,

both on December 21 and especially Christmas Eve, are a joyous gathering of family: of Lesbians, Gay men, and our friends and supporters. These concerts are presented with love; come, be with your family and partake of this gift of song.

Tickets for the concerts are \$5 and are available at Headlines (549 Castro and 1217 Polk), through BASS outlets, and from chorus members. They will also be available by mail order: P.O. Box 14665, San Francisco 94114. PAS vouchers will be accepted and group rates will be available. For further ticket information call (415) 864-0326.

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KSAN Presents

POLITICS, "WHITE NIGHT" SATIRE
"The Gay Life" on KSAN, 95 FM, presents a discussion of Gay politics in San Francisco after the 1980 elections and a re-broadcast of the acclaimed audio-montage, "White Night, Black Dish" on Sunday, Nov. 23, at a new time, 11:30 pm.
Producer/host Randu Alfred

Producer/host Randy Alfred will interview Supervisor Harry Britt and Community College Board Member-elect Tim Wol-fred about the significance of the 1980 elections for the Gay

the 1980 elections for the Gay communitu.
"White Night, Black Dish; or The Ultimate Last Fag Joke" is a twenty-minute satiric audiomontage on the November, 1978, assassinations of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk and the May, 1979, riots following the conviction of Dan White on a manslaughter charge. The swiftpaced piece includes a musical version of White's confession, outrageous monologues, and the haunting curse of a fag the haunting curse of a fag nun, as well as audio actualities of the events themselves.





Concert

up the wahzoo.

Both the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and the San Francisco Symphony hit important turning points in their growth. Having reached that stage (like most athletes) they can now continue to seek higher goals and stretch their talents even further in an effort to grow. Every athlete and musician faces this challenge every day of their life — the challenge to improve and to grow.

To the members of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Band, the San Francisco Symphony and to Beverly Sills: We salute your achievements. We look to the future with joy, confidence, and the hope that the money raised and publicity gained from these events works to the betterment of your respective futures. A hearty bravo to all!

George Heymont

New Music Series Is A Winner

by Philip Campbell

The New and Unusual Music series currently offered by the Symphony on Fridays in November has reached its midway point. The success of the programs thus far surpass all expectations. If anyone was holding their breath in anticipation of failure, they can exhale in satisfied relief, for every aspect of the series is marked by intel-

Moving away from the more conservative confines of the symphony hall to the dramatic Galleria Showplace has relaxed performers and audience alike. The atmosphere is special and so is the programming and the

hotel transfers included

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ligence and taste.

Friday, November 14, composer/conductor John Adams led members of the New Music Ensemble of the San Francisco Conservatory in works that flowed naturally from the late 1920's to the present. Opening the program with Colin McPhee's Concerto for Piano and Wind Octet was a clever move that set the tone for what followed. This fiendishly difficult piece places great demands on the pianist, and Mack McCray responded with brilliant playing filled with percussion and energy. Some of the subtle transparency of the writing for the winds was swallowed up by the Galleria atrium. This was a minor drawback and the total effect was positive. The response from the large and enthusiastic audience made it clear that this was to be one of those concert going experiences that people

Adams next conducted thirteen instrumentalists in Gyorgy Ligeti's Chamber Concerto. This fine mysterious piece is a personal favorite, and I found myself amazed at the new insight provided by this live performance. Entering into Ligeti's exquisite dream landscape with accomplished ease, the performers brought the first half of the concert to a breathless close

After a leisurely intermission,

performer/composer Paul Dresher played his composition for Electric Guitar and Tape Delay Network; "Liquid and Stellar Music." While I appreciate what Dresher is attempting, this was to be the weakest part of the evening. The piece exhibits a pleasantly hypnotic quality, but ultimately I found it tiresome. Dresher calls it "a constantly evolving performance format" which aptly describes the improvisational feeling and allows the performer to make ample use of the sophisticated electronic equipment. The experiment is an interesting one if a trifle gimmicky. The performer involved may play other amplified instruments. I have a feeling I might have liked it more if the instrument had been a keyboard.

Bringing the program to a joyful close was Steve Reich's Octet. Influenced heavily by the music of the East but interested in the traditional acoustical instruments of the West, Reich has fashioned a tight, highly energetic piece that had the audience buzzing with delight. Steve Reich is one of the few modern composers who seems to have attracted a large audience for his work. This is not surprising because his music is wonderful. Gyorgy Ligeti was popularized in part by the film "2001: A Space Odyssey" which used several of his compositions to great effect. I have a feeling that both of these composers would have



Composer/conductor John Adams, who heads up the New Music Ensemble of the S.F. Conservatory.

been noticed sooner or later because their music is so re-

That seems to me to be the best and most important aspect of the New and Unusual Music series. Composers of important modern music are being given a forum. The conditions are optimum and the music can be heard in the truest sense.

There are two more Friday evenings in November. I intend to spend them with new music at the Galleria. May the rest of the series prove as fulfilling as the first half.

Stage:

BLEACHER BUMS

A Play About Winning & Losing

by Dan Turner



High batting average for players Bill Bonham and Nancy Fish In BLEACHER BUMS.

There is a live Chicago Cubs game in progress on the fourth floor at 595 Mission Street. At least the fans are there! You can eat popcorn and peanuts and watch them watch the game. You don't have to like baseball to watch the crowd,

and even if you do like baseball, you will probably recognize — if not want to identify with — some of those scene stealers.

There are more writers on this script than players on a baseball team, so I won't go through the list. The play is directed by Lee Sankowich and performed in his studio theater, called the New Zephyr. He is remembered for his revival of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," which ran for five and more years in San Francisco.

This show does not pack a wallop like that one, but it is good fun and has a point to make. The place is Wrigley Field in Chicago, and the Cubs are playing the Cards. The bleacher bums are those fanatics that will do anything to

watch a game, and do about anything during a game to watch it. In one case, a blind fan listens on a transistor and probably can see the game a lot better than everyone else. Joey Hoeber plays the part.

The other characters that show up are Zig (Abe Kalish) who smokes a cigar and wears a Hawaiian luau shirt; his haggard wife (Nancy Fish) who never has enough spending money to get her hair done; Decker (Nick Eldredge), a salesman with a heart of gold; Richie (Daniel Forrest), an archetypal nerd; the Cheerleader (Bill Bonham) who knows everything there is to know to razz an opponent; a voluptuous blonde (Cindy Furgatch), who is no longer dizzy; Marvin (Frank Papia), an asshole posing as Mr. Cool; and other patrons, pacifiers, and pinch hitters of the ball park.

Like the game, the play is about winning and losing. Bets are won and lost, more often lost, but the betting is what counts. BLEACHER BUMS does not preach. It kind of sits there like a sunny, Sunday afternoon. It gets off to a slow start after a rousing pre-show hype from a peanut vendor. Each "bum" finds his or her way to their seat. The harsh glare on each character is a bit intense. Not all of this individual scrutiny is pleasant. The nerd and the haggard housewife are funny, but also uncomfortably painful portraits. They are close to the bone.

These people are losers like the Cubs. Each one is flawed by nature or circumstance. One cannot really laugh, or judge, but rather accept the pleasant message of the play. Call 495-6566 for reservations.



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FILM CLIPS

Michael Lasky



A 96-minute diatribe - RETURN OF THE SECAUCUS SEVEN

Return of the Secaucus Seven OVERPRAISED

Yak-Yak-Yak! That's all the left wing radicals of the 60's ever did. Full of passionate beliefs and worthy causes, these righteous eastern liberals led crusades in the name of justice that were, in retrospect, just a lot of sound and fury, signifying nothing.

Thirty-year old neophyte director John Sayles returns to this verbose, vociferous era in a film about a Pinteresque weekend reunion of a group of friends who were arrested eight years earlier in Secaucus, New Jersey, on their way to an antiwar rally.

While the idea is a sound one, its execution is anything but. The script by Sayles painfully mirrors the wordiness of the characters, but the direction is static and the performances seem so deliberate and rehearsed that at times you feel you're eavesdropping at a dress rehearsal of a freshman college play. The bullseye accuracy in the depiction of the

type of people these were in unfortunately what makes the film seem to tedious. They talk nonstop but never say anything. They were boring in the 60's. And now that they are eight years older and presumably wiser, their thoughts come across as trite and middle class as ever.

In fact, the only person who comes through this 96-minute diatribe with any amount of likability is an allegedly square Congressional aide who has ac-companied his girl friend. He's natural, down-to-earth, and playfully alive — all the qualities, as it happens, that are so obviously missing from this embarrassingly overpraised film.

(Surf Theatre)

The Getting of Wisdom ANOTHER AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL DAYS FILM

Australians are hung up on their past and on the experiences in turn of-the-century private schools. First imported

to this country was Peter Weir's brilliant study of the events in a girls school, PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK. Then there was THE DEVIL'S PLAY-GROUND, about the events in a Catholic boys' school. After that came the well-executed MY BRILLIANT CAREER about a young farm girl's getting of wisdom. Now comes Bruce Bereford's THE GETTING OF WISDOM which conversely seems for our lovely protagonist anything but. Susannah Fowle portrays Laura Rambotham, a girl suddenly taken from her back country impoverished upbringing and plunged into a spartan Melbourne finishing school for young ladies. Run by a bulldog spinster, the school is filled with bratty, snobby kids who take out their pent-up frustrations on new girls. Laura, naturally gregarious, tries desperately to assimilate but is all but smothered by the sternness of the teachers and the abruptness of the classmates. But survives she does as she forms an almost Lesbianish relationship with a beautiful upperclasswoman (Hilary Ryan) and then with a little cheating graduates herself with honors and a scholarship to study music in

Europe. While the film is engrossing and handsomely produced, while the script is intelligent and the acting splen-

produced, while the script is intelligent and the acting splen-id, at the end you cannot but wonder just what the getting of wisdom is. If it is what is overtly suggested, then this film is indeed the darkest, most cynical one to come out from Down Under.

Bye Bye Brazil

BYE BYE BRAZIL, a film by Carlos Diegues which appeared in both the S.F. and N.Y. Film Festivals, explodes with a raw vitality as it sweeps along on a 9,000 mile Cook's Tour of Brazil.

A traveling vaudeville trio come into a little impoverished town and perform their magic and songs for the entertainment starved inhabitants. They travel on to another town where they find the reception is not as gracious or profitable as the visit the year before.

What this musically alive, earthy comedy points out in its peripatetic story and rapturous vivid color photography is that it's time to say goodbye to the primitive Brazil. What once was a county comprised of poor

backwoods villages is now slowly becoming a nation whose industrial progress has advanced as far as a Trans-Amazon Highway that rips open the formerly mysterious jungle.

What fast-talking magician Jose Wilker learns as he leads his troupe — voluptuous dancer (sometimes prostitute) Betty Faria, deaf-mute muscleman Principe Nabor and two backwoods escapees, wimpy Fabio Junior and pregnant Zaira Zambelli — is that encroaching civilization in Brazil is the death knell of his act.

In one town deep in the jungle no one comes to his show. In search of the reason why they seem the ominous "fish bones" — of TV antenas. In a public auditorium the entire town of 300 watches starry-eyed a tiny TV screen. Our performers have no gimmicks or charms to muster a paying audience away from the screen.

Another town is so poor from a two-year drought that they cannot pay money and leave the few bits of food they have as payment. They come only one night for the remain(Continued on Page 26)

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THE GETTING OF WISDOM — ". . . at the end you cannot but wonder just what the getting of wisdom is," says Michael Lasky.



An Interview With Charles Pierce

The Party's Not Over Yet

by Mark Topkin

"It's coming near the time to announce a farewell tour," Charles Pierce told me a few hours before his opening at the Plush Room. "Not a retirement," he adds, "that wouldn't be any fun." But after twenty-six years of impersonating the great ladies of the silver screen — "I'm not an impressionist; I'm a depressionist," Charles reminded me — in one of the funniest acts to ever cross the boards, Pierce is ready to put the act on the shelf and move on to other things.

First of all, Charles is getting weary of life on the road. "I emceed Studio One's big Halloween Ball on a Sunday, packed up on Monday, left for Atlanta on Tuesday, opened in Atlanta on Wednesday, played there for the last eleven nights, then came here (SF) on Sunday, rehearsed Monday, rehearsed today, and open tonight. I'm showbizzed up the yin-yang."

"I'd like to change my living conditions in 1981 and find a club in L.A. that I could play in for a couple of months. I've just about had it with suitcases and roads and coming into clubs and setting up. I'm ready to say bye; no more wheels."

Another reason Pierce is ready to give up the act is that all his tried and true ladies are dying off and going up to the big silver screen in the sky. "In

places like Atlanta people don't know who Tallulah is, and there's no big star out now that you can do a take-off of. Remember, my act is based on years ago, before TV grabbed everyone and kept them home. If there was a picture with your favorite star down at the local movie house, everyone would go and see it. Then I could do a take-off of it."

"Now, when you analyze films," Charles continued, "it's JAWS and mechanical things or personalities who don't sound distinctive. You can't do Meryl Streep's voice or Jane Fonda's voice."

Being tired of the road and hardpressed to find new ladies to take off on are only part of the story behind Pierce's decision to shelve his act. He talked about some of the other things he'd like to do with his life.

"I'd like to do more TV, but those roles are few and far between and, of course, I'm locked into being in drag all the time. If they need someone in drag, they call me. To play a lawyer, a doctor, I'd have to go through a whole physical metamorphosis and probably change my name."

When I asked Charles about his future fantasy he replied, "I'd like to do a really good film. I wrote one once called 'Closed Coffin' but never pushed it. I'd like to do a glamorous female impersonation role or Sunset Boulevard type recluse. Or if a role in a Broadway show came along . . . "

Doug Trantham, the pianist who replaces Pierce's musical tapes at the Plush Room, interrupts Charles' reveries to rehearse a number, and Pierce is back in the here and now. "People are going to be pleased that I'm working with a pianist like Doug. I should think they'd say thank God there's no more films and slides. It's a refreshing change for me. The Plush Room is cozy. It's like a living room where I can carry on."

And carry on he does, twice a night at the Hotel York where for an hour and a half he keeps his audience aching from laughter with his inimitable illusions of Hollywood's great ladies. A legend in his own right.

"Once I've shelved the act," Pierce said, "I would never, ever bring it back." But, he added, "When the lights go on my makeup mirror something starts to happen. I've always been on stage, been someone else in that way." Which leads me to believe that Charles Pierce will be entertaining us to the hilt — in one way or another — until he joins those great ladies on the silver screen in the sky.

The party isn't over yet. Not by a long shot.



"It's coming near the time to announce a farewell tour," says Charles

Pierce Plays Pierce

by John F. Karr

Here's a bit of news more shocking than the election of Reagan, the Pope having a

sex-change or Bette Midler being Born Again: Charles Pierce has new material. Fifteen minutes into his opening performance, La Pierce announced his opening number, Sondheim's "Broadway Baby," with Pierce's own lyric. And then he queried, "Now what's this crap about my not doing new material?"

That song wasn't the only new thing he did. He dished Divine, Barbara Stanwyck and the Mormon Church. He sang several songs, played a piano duet with his accompanist, and divulged the last words of Isadora Duncan. Most important, though, is that he appeared without slides, without commercials, without puppets. This engagement is pure, distilled Pierce. For an incredible hour and a half Charles Pierce stood center stage and regaled his audience with an astounding gallery of Famous Ladies who all did Charles Pierce impersonations. For, as he says, "All my voices are melting together." Not so much the impressionist he used to be, Pierce is using his ladies as the medium through which he expresses himself. Pierce is now playing Pierce, and the results are more intensified for it.

But don't worry. You'll still see him as Mae West ("Why don't you see me up and come (Continued on Page 26)



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"Pierce has new material," says reviewer John Karr; ". . . Pierce's Great Ladies are now playing Charles Pierce."

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Tales of Tessi Tura

Adventures on New York Stage

by George Heymont

Monogamy is all very nice and sweet when it's conve-nient. But roving eyes and gypsy feet are a fact of life. Even Mozart knew the wisdom of the ancient warning that a stiff cock knows no conscience. And who has had more of a problem with said affliction than Don Giovanni? Given a good-looking Don, I'd be the first one to boot Donna Elvira into the orchestra nit and get into the orchestra pit and get down on my knees begging to become No. 1004 in the Don's conquests.

GO TO HELL

The New York City Opera had just that handsome devil in the likes of Justino Diaz. The suave, macho Puerto Rican cuts a dashing figure on any stage (particularly when pulling on a blouse with puffed sleeves and sticking its tails way down somewhere in those beige tights of his). But can he sing?

Yes, Diaz can sing. Unfortu-nately, the night I saw DON GIOVANNI in Lincoln Center the entire company was having an off night. Sylvia Yorke and Martha Sheil as Donna Anna and Donna Elvira were having and Donna Elvira-were having a bumpy ride. Both had trouble negotiating their music, maintaining proper breath control, and acting believably. They were upstaged by the pert, young Faith Esham as Zerlina. Esham has been coming up in the ranks of the company and is now starting to shine — a talent worth watching. Also showing strong signs of improvement is tenor Joseph Evans, whose Don Ottavio was the saving grace of the evening. evening

John Mauceri conducted with a rather heavy hand. The production design by Michael Annals is a flexible unit set with one major flaw. In the scene in Don Giovanni's garden there is a cloth drop which apparently is supposed to simulate a tree, handing rug or isome such hanging rug, or 'some such thing. Alas, it looks like the weather-worn genitalia on the

Colossus of Rhodes after typhoon. Symbolic, ye typhoon. S Necessary, no.

MOOSE CALLS

Whatever disappointment sunk the evening was offset by the joy which lingered after the matinee performance of THE MERRY WIVES OF WIVES OF WINDSOR. WINDSOR. This new production of Nicolai's comic opera is a delight. Indeed, many in the audience confessed that they enjoyed it far more than Verdi's FALSTAFF. The music bounces and carries the action forward with cunning

skill.

John Conklin's simple unit set is the kind of nice, cheap design work I like to see. It offers maximum flexibility with a minimum of debris or excess cost. Under Lou Galtiero's clever direction, the proceedings moved along with a proper amount of magic, charm, and mischief. Carol Vaness and RoseMarie Freni scored strongly as Alice Ford and Meg Page. Vaness (who will be singing here this June as Donna Anna) sang with exceptional beauty. Stephen Dickson made the most intense debut I have ever seen as the jealous Mr. Ford. Vinson Cole and Janice Hall shone as the young lovers. Cole's beautiful, strong tenor soared through their love duet and was most appealing. and was most appealing.

The strength of any foray into Falstaff's love affairs lies in the talents of Sir John, himself. William Wildermann might be a trifle coarse-voiced for the role, but he gave a thoroughly lovable portrayal of the old sot, especially in his drinking contests. Whether scheming to seduce Alice, or stalking the forest in antlers, Wildermann cut an adorable figure onstage. The audience's obvious enjoyment of the proceedings indicates that this production will be with us for a long time. A welcome addition to the City Opera's repertoire, if ever there was one.



Roscoe (Justin Ross) sings his credo, "I'd Rather Be A Fairy Than A Troll," In the gay musical FOURTUNE about a pop/rock group rising to



Sir John Falstaff (William Wildermann) expresses a bit of surprise as Mr Ford (Stephen Dickson) pays him to put the make on Mrs. Ford (some thing Sir John had been trying to do all by himself) in the New York City Opera's production of Otto Nicolai's THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A QUAALUDE MAKES

A QUAALUDE MAKES

Off Broadway I saw a neat little musical which goes one step past wife-swapping. FOURTUNE involves a quartet of aspiring young pop singers of various sexual persuasions. Brad and Tracy are hoping to get married and live a life of heterosexual bliss. But Tracy has been having a whopping good time in bed with Madelaine while Brad is trying to arrange the troupe's business affairs. Madelaine is openly Gay, though married to Roscoe, the screaming queen of the quartet. Roscoe, (as you guessed) has the hots for Brad. By the end of the show boy gets boy, girl gets girl, and everyone gets a piece of everyone.

The troupe has been starving while playing turnpike dinner theaters. When an engagement

falls through, Roscoe saves the day by booking the group into Man's Country in Chicago. Brad goes into an absolute straight panic until a Quaalude loosens him up more than he expected. As the plot thickens, we are treated to such charming voiceovers as "Locker No. 723, your mother has search squads combing the entire metropolitan Chicago area. Would you please call home?"

Ron Melrose's songs are surprisingly catchy. The cast was superb. Cameron Smith revealed a strong, likable tenor voice as Brad. Gail Hebert and Barbara Richardson were excellent as Tracy and Madelaine. Justin Ross brought down the house with Roscoe's theme song: "I'd Rather Be A Fairy Than A Troll."

It's a lightweight evening, but one of the most enjoyable pieces of Gay theater I've seen in years.

Garage Art

Vallejo Garage - a California Life (a performance-exhibit by Russell Ellison) will be present-ed at AAA Studios, 233 14th Street (between Mission & South Van Ness) Saturdays and Sundays, Nov. 22, 23, 29 and 30, from 3pm to 6pm.

and 30, from 3pm to 5pm.

"Vallejo Garage - a California Life" is a performance-exhibit based on the life of a man who lived in a garage for over 30 years, surrounded by books, political pamphlets, newspapers, clippings and memories.

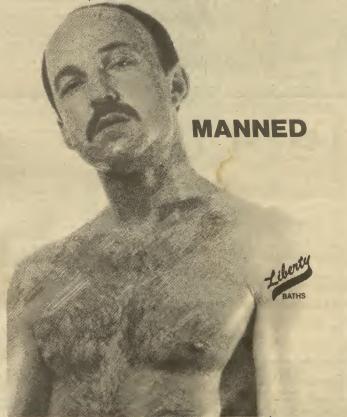
memories.

Drawing from his scrap books, photos, news clippings, tapes and other mementos and based on personal interviews and recollections, "Vallejo Garage - a California Life" recreates the time, the place, and the life of this man. the life of this man.

Admission will be \$2.



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Sylvester to Rock **Symphony Hall**

by Allen White



Sylvester will be produced by Conceptual Entertainment Symphony Hall November 29.

Saturday night, November 29, will mark a turning point for Conceptual Entertainment. The two year old entertainment organization will present Sylvester and Syreeta in an eve-

CONNIE'S? Why Not? Visa New Orleans Style 8 A MC Seafood Restaurant Accepted Cocktail Lounge of the lamous New Orleans Oyster Loal Connie's own Croile Gumbo Shellink Pockle Corkail Lounge of the lamous New Orleans Oyster Loal Connie's own Croile Gumbo Shellink Pockle Carav Filsh Croile Gumbo Shellink Pockle Carav Filsh Croile Gumbo Shellink Pockle Carav Filsh Charles Construction of the Connie and Charles Country Shelling Filsh Charles Cockle Carava Charles Cockle Carava Charles Charles

ning of "Glamour and Glitter" at the Davies Symphony Hall. For David Bandy and his partner Gary Roverana, who head Conceptual Entertainment, this will be an opportunity to exhibit what his company does best: the presentation of a concept combining music, lighting, and spectacle in an environment where the audience creates the energy to be the star of the but to date they have not been extensively copied in other parts of the country.

Their first production was "A Salute to the Men of San Francisco" at the Galleria in August of 1978. Since that first event,

energy to be the star of the show. Their type of production has been extremely successful,

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Bandy and associates have produced 15 shows ranging from a staggering spectacular disco party at Griffith Observatory in Hollywood to a black-tie evening with Sylvester at the Opera House. Up to now, they have probably become best known for their many parties at the Galleria. the Galleria.

When asked the reasons for their success, Bandy said that they target their productions for a Gay audience. He noted that the people of San Francisco's Gay community know how to generate a tremendous amount of energy. He feels his job is to create a "space" where this energy can be released. He explained that their success depends on how well they can communicate with their audience. Bandy said that whether they are at a party at the Galleria or at a concert at the Opera House, the San Francisco audience displays honest reactions. He feels that this interaction is unique to San Francisco. When asked the reasons for

With all this in mind, I started asking about what we could expect at the Sylvester/Syreeta concert at Davies Hall. Bandy then told me about what possibly is his most important tool. It's called "word of mouth." He has developed a network throughout the city that gets the word out. These people, he says, will get the word out that black-tie is going to be a way of dress. He knows that there are people who are going to try (and may succeed) to outdress Sylvester and Syreeta. He also gets the word out to encourage these people. As the word starts to spread, his audiences begin to anticipate a high energy level. At the same time, Gary Roverana and David Bandy are working with their staff to put together not just a show, but an experience. This will be the first disco/soul event ever held in the new hall, and they intend on setting a standard. Rumors have been flying about special guests for over a month, and Bandy will neither confirm nor deny the rumors. His only comment is that both artists have requested extra mikes for guests. It has also not gone unnoticed that the Symphony Hall's continental seating plan creates larger than normal leg room between each row...large enough to dance. What makes these productions With all this in mind. I started normal leg room between each row . . . large enough to dance. What makes these productions more than just another show obviously depends on the audience and that is what Bandy is counting on to make the evening a success.

Earlier I mentioned that this show is a turning point for Con-ceptual Entertainment. The turn represents a change in Earlier I mentioned that this show is a turning point for Conceptual Entertainment. The turn represents a change in direction. In the past two years the company has been noted primarily for their spectacular disco events at the Galleria. In the next year they are planning many other types of presentations. They currently have many nights held for shows at both Davies Hall and the Opera House. They will also present at least five big disco shows in 1981. New Year's Eve they will present an entertainment lineup at the Galleria headed by Linda Clifford. Bandy would talk about only one of his shows at the Opera House. He is putting together a "Grand Ole Country" night at the Opera House. Country and western music for a Gay audience at the Opera House! I didn't even want to know how he came up with that idea. But then, if you can throw a disco in the Griffith Observatory in Hollywood, put Sylvester and Syreeta in Davies Symphony Hall, and for kicks have a dance every month or two for several thousand people at the Galleria, I suppose anything is possible.

Male Dance Concert

The fond and frequent fantasy of an all-male dance company has been realized under the artistic direction of Joseph L. Taylor, dancer, director and choreographer from New York.

Images of Men, fifteen men strong, was formed in August of this year and has already performed at the I-Beam's 3rd Anniversary Party and "Night Fright," I-Beam's Halloween celebration, the Dance Spectrum Choreographer's Showcase, the Vorpal Gallery's Dance Festival honoring Picasso's birthday, as well as several benefit concerts including the cast party for the Gay Men's Chorus. Among the works being presented by the Images of Men will be the premiere of "The Persian Boy" based on the novel by Mary Renault. Images of Men, fifteen men

Sharing the concert with the Images of Men will be the Bottom Line Dance Co., also under the direction of Joseph Taylor. The Bottom Line is a high energy jazz and discostage show of three women and two men who have per-

formed throughout the Bay Area and California and are planning a tour of Japan in the spring. This company features National Disco Semi-finalists Bob Massie and Sally Van Loon, with Usu Bornhouser, Kelly Seal and Joseph Taylor.

Special guest artists include David Kelsey and Pure Trash, Joe Poltrone, Randy Kirvonic, George Dickson, and Charles Robins (formerly of Joffrey Ballet)

CURTAIN'S UP will be per-formed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 8 and 9, at 8pm at the Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th Street, San Francisco, across from BART.

Tickets are \$5 and are on sale at Headlines, Aloha Records, Main Line Gifts. For info please call 621-1226 or 285-0516.

This promises to be one of the most exciting, original, and entertaining events of the fall season. Seating is limited so be sure to get your tickets in ad-vance and bring your friends.

Turkey Day Dance

A Thanksgiving dance to support Acceptance House, a Gay alcoholism recovery center, will be held Saturday, Nov. 29, at MCC (150 Eureka St.), from 9:30pm to 1am. Admission will be \$3. The event, sponsored by Acceptance House Alumni, will include a professional light and sound show, drawings for prizes, and free coffee, soft drinks and cookies.

Acceptance House, 1710
Golden Gate Avenue, is a residential treatment facility housing about 15 men and women who stay for 60 to 90 days. The house is associated with the new 18th Street Services which provides group and individual counseling for Gay men and Lesbians who have alcohol and drug related problems. and drug related problems

The dance is one of the Alumni's regular activities such as sponsoring alcohol and drug-free parties, fund-raisers, educational programs, and offering informal group counseling for members.

For information about the dance, Acceptance House or 18th Street Services, phone 931-4994.

RRRRR

Gay Feminism **Aired**

Radio KPFA (940), Saturday, Dec. 6, from Noon to 2PM presents Multi-Issue Feminism: group discussion, poetry and prose readings, and music. This program is a follow-up of the forum, Racism in the Women's Movement, sponsor-ed by Women Writers Union and Radical Women.

The speakers who participated in the forum were Cherie Moraga Lawrence, Chicano feminist; Joseph Durant, Chicano Gay activist; Marie Ren-fro, Black Lesbian; Merle Woo, WWU; Nellie Wong, WWU; and Sukey Durham, RW and WWU.

FILM CLIPS

(Continued from Page 23) ing time is spent in church praying for rain.

Throughout all of this we are taken on a transcontinental journey of Brazil where we witness the levels of life and terrain. The "Caravana Rolidei" drives their dilapidated truck virtually into the ground. And when leader Jose Wilker loses even that in a bet, they are reduced to whoring to get money. From the depths of poverty to the heights of despair, they survive into a Big City happy ending. Throughout all of this we are

A markedly beautiful and haunting film — with lots of syncopated Brazilian songs along the way — BYE BYE BRAZIL shows us a country in growth pains. From the ancient and the poor to the modern, from the sea to the jungle, here is a vast panorama of life brought lovingly to the screen.

Pierce

(Continued from Page 24)

(Continued from Page 24) sometime?"), Rona Rooter, and in a fabulous tribute to The Ladies Who Wore Turbans — Maria Montez, Maria Ouspenskaya, and especially Gloria Swanson. Pierce has never been more glamorous than in this Swanson outfit, nor funnier. Playing Swanson as Norma Desmond, he's in the 49th year of his seven day beauty plan, and finally reveals to us why these women wore turbans at all.

And then he's ready for And then he's ready for Bette Davis, who announces she'll do "a scene from all of my films," but first gets involved in an extended bitch fight with Tallulah ("Ever been this close to an open grave before?" he asks) Bankhead.

But I can't reveal more sur-But I can't reveal more sur-prises or crib any more jokes. Pierce's art has been variously labeled through the years. He's now surmounting categories. He's become a force of nature, a mad whirlwind that in a thou-sand disguises is the same won-derful and mad comedian derful and mad comedian.
And, oh yes, he's looking absolutely divine, even under lights.
Through November 30, at the
Plush Room. Where else?

Fourth Annual Women's Poetry Festival

by Ellen Cooney



Noni Howard, founder of the Women's Poetry Festival

The Fourth Annual Women's Poetry Festival took place Sat-urday and Sunday, Nov. 15 & 16, at Lone Mountain College.

A feast for the senses! A celebration! These are only mild praises for this two-day marathon of women's poetry organized by the indefatigable Noni Howard and her New World Press of San Francisco. Even without funding, Noni's festival grows better and larger in scope each year. Several women poets traveled from Canada at their own expense to participate. Two women from New Orleans also participated. A feast for the senses! A cele

A feast for the eye as well as A least for the eye as well as for the ear, this year's festival represented women of all colors and traditions, from radical Third World Lesbians to white middle-class housewives, as well as just about everybody in between

A unique feature of the Women's Poetry Festival is a book fair with displays by women's presses in the same room as the readings. People came and went, bought, swapped, met and exchanged information before and after the readings. Presses from Canada, Paris, and Kathmandu were represented as well as those from Northern California.

The readings went in four 4-hour sets, from 1-5 and 7-11 both days. A little long for less than lead-assed, hard-core poetry freaks. Perhaps eight 2-hour sets would be better with an hour's break between each. Both body and mind need time to stretch, to be able to take in all of it without becoming burned out. Also, those who read last in each set were at a disadvantage. disadvantage.

The quality of the poetry keeps improving. With the diversity of old, young, and middle-aged; black, white, yellow, and brown; Gay and straight; quality was not sacrificed to "political correctness."

There were also such features as poetry and dance, poetry and cello, dramatic monologues and music of various kinds.

I can't mention everyone or

everything that went on, as there were over 50 poets and performers. However, there were many extraordinary wo-men participating. Here are some highlights.

Saturday afternoon: Multi-lingual Laura Schiff, an excep-tional translator, read selections lingual Laura Schiff, an exceptional translator, read selections from the Roumanian, German, and (later on Sunday) French with the poet Cosette Thompson. Gwen Avery sang her strong Lesbian lyrics accompanying herself on piano. Magical Stephanie Mines read a poem about a journey to India and back. 80-year old mischievous and elegant Lesbian Elsa Gidlow and her young friend Abigail Tigressilly read separately then read a lovely dialogue. Like the elegant and mysterious heroine of "The Visit," Mary West, swathed in white, filled the room with long Scottish ballads, Marianne Ware, a fat jolly "Jewish mother," read about motherhood and the joys of being fat (strangely, a common theme this year).

Saturday night: Unfortu-nately, I missed due to exhaus-tion. But among the poets were Lynn Lonidier, Susan Effros, Judy Grahn, and Jennifer Stone, as well as singers Cas-selberry and Dupree, and Vicki

Sunday afternoon: Natasha Borovsky-Hidalgo in her elegant old-world style read works accompanied by cellist Nancy O'Connell. Chinese poet and playwright Genny Lim read of bound and unbound feet. A very strong voice indeed! Mary Rudge read about Texas. Mona Fertig of Canada, one of my favorites of the festival, read her lovely

magical garden poems.

magical garden poems.

Sunday night: Pat Parker (an old favoritie) read oldie but goodie Lesbian love poems and an impressive poem on Guyana. Noni Howard, dressed in her usual black, and dancer Vanessa Kingston gave a sensual poetry/dance performance. Gloria Anzaldua read lovely poems about 16th century Spanish witches. Kathy Kendall of New Orleans did dramatic monologues rather in the style of Lily Tomlin. Very funny. Very human. Terry Wetherby read about her Kentucky childhood and her hauntingly lovely bone poems. ingly lovely bone poems.

Every year I look forward to this festival. As Kathleen Fraser put it, it's like "an annual fam-ily" for the isolated woman writer, a magical place to come which, a magical place to come to and be renewed, replenished and inspired. For those of you who missed it, cable TV Channel 25 will televise it on November 25.

Turner Directs Curzon

Dan Turner, B.A.R. theater reviewer, is the director of one of the one-acts now at the Goodman Building.

Turner directed Daniel Curzon's new play, "Beer and Rhubarb Pie," for Theatre Rhinoceros. The plays are on Saturday and Sunday at 3PM. More performances are being scheduled for the plays which have proved popular. For more info call 776-1848.

Beer Line Extended

Due to overwhelming de-land for tickets, Theatre hinoceros is extending the in of BEER AND RHUBARB mand Rhinoc run of BEER AND RHUBARB PIE by Daniel Curzon and THE LINE FORMS TO THE REAR by Cal Yeomans. The two one-acts will continue Saturdays and Sundays at 3PM in the Goodman Building Cabaret (1121 Geary Street) through December 7. Admission is \$3.50 or P.A.S., and reservations may be made by calling 776-1848.

Gay Singers Sought

Auditions are now being held for the Temescal Gay Men's Chorus, currently forming in the East Bay. We need tenors, baritones, and basses. Some musical background or choral experience is preferred, but not a necessity. This choir may be the first in a network of Gay musical organizations. Gay musical organizations serving the East Bay area. For information and auditions, please contact Charles Baker, 654-0604 evenings.

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Feminist Theater

PIZZA

Back by Popular Demand

Lilith, the West Coast's leading feminist theater company, will perform their original production, PIZZA, in San Francisco again.

The special limited run will be held at the Gumption Theatre, 1563 Page Street, on the evenings of November 20-23, Thursday through Sunday. The Friday night performance will be signed for the deaf. Discount tickets are available for theater-goers over 65. All performances will be at 8pm.

PIZZA is a spicy story about

a mother/daughter relation-ship. Grace Innocenti, faced with the responsibility of caring for her ailing mother, recalls the pizzeria in Paterson, New Jersey, where she grew up. "In The Still of the Night" plays on the jukebox as the characters of Gracie's childhood come to life, filling the old pizzeria with laughter, and a few tears.

Written by Lilith member and Artistic Director Michele Linfante, PIZZA has been chosen for publication in the upcoming edition of West Coast Plays (out October 25, 1980).

Lilith's work this year has been supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council, the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, and the Zellerbach Family

Australian Gay/Lesbian Films at the Roxie

The Roxie Theatre will be screening four short Gay films from Australia that focus on the homosexual lifestyle Down Under. WITCHES AND FAGGOTS — DYKES AND POOFTERS is a 45-minute film focusing on a Mardi Gras debacle in June 1978 when a parade of Gay people were attacked by state police. The personal experience of Gay individuals as revealed through interviews points out the ways in which homosexuals suffer discrimination — be it in the family, in the work force, or in the eyes of the medical profession.

(December 3 & 4: 7:00/ is a 13-minute drama that questions the goals of love and romance as a woman's ultimate

APARTMENTS is a ten-minute exploration of a roman-tic obsession between two wo-men living in the same apart-ment complex.

SHOWTIME is a 17-minute story about how a small town is faced with the romance of a school teacher and her principal and how it "will affect" their children.

The program is a benefit for FRAMELINE, a non-profit Gay and Lesbian film and video collection, sponsors of the San Francisco Gay Film Festival.

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PAGE 27

On The Beat

Rock And ...

by Adam Block

Ah, important business. Over at The Stud where the B-52's showed up to dance with the local trash after their recent show and DJ Larry LaRue got monumentally drunk pushing patrons out of the way to service his victime sters, one har. ice his visiting stars, one bar-tender threatened my health if I didn't give a five-star rating to Neil Young's latest, HAWKS AND DOVES. Well, it gets my vote for Sensimellian farmers begodern music; depend and vote for Sensimellian farmers hoedown music: doped and dopey, and stumbledrunk friendly. This is the 60's through cracked spectacles with froth in the whiskers, and a wry counterpoint to brash terrors of last year's Live Rust. Neil may become the Willie Nelson of his generation; and why not?

Another bartender over there, Patrick, who makes those inspired buttons, keeps threatening to break my legs if I don't plug his "new single," "Hard Leatherette." Sounds like the lad has been listening to the Sleat Rose and doine had the Skatt Bros. and doing bad drugs. I recommend a change of pace — maybe a sabbatical at the Alta Plaza. Now will you jokers let me drink in peace?

Howie Klein, the godfather

of the local new wave scene, called to clue me to a new group out of England named U2. Their first lp, BOY, is just out with a pubescent of the same gender on the cover and some suggestively Gay lyrics. Howie says the sound reminds him of The Cure. The impatient can investigate directly at their import shops. Warner Bros. will be issuing the lp domestically. It is produced by Steve Lillywhite of XTC and Ultravox fame, who also — I believe — did the new Tom Robinson lp. His latest band is called Sector 27, and the lp (on IRS) is due out this week. Word is that Gay and political lyrics will not be its noteworthy feature.

I caught the Jim Carroll band at the I-Beam. Carroll seemed exhausted and loaded after a tough schedule but pulled out a delicious extended cover of Lou Reed's "Sweet Jane." Alan Robinson spun discs masterfully and a swell time was had by most. The I-Beam is currently one of the most interesting places to see live music esting places to see live music in town, but don't expect to dance to it if the crowd is large.

Those who are in a state of



shock at KSAN's hideous transformation (I've been disgusted for a long time) might check out KUSF at about 92 on the FM where Richard Gossett, Beverly Wilshire and inspired students keep alternatives alive. KALX in Berkeley is in the same neck of the dial with some eccentric tunes as well. You have to be a prospector these days.

Thanks to Randy Alfred for his audio accompaniment to my Gay Rock story which ran on KSAN's "The Gay Life" show over Halloween. Hilari-ously, and thankfully, Randy will remain on the air.

> Van and Joni: Late Career Angst

Van Morrison and Joni Mitchell were both performing here recently, on the heels of new lp releases. Both have gone from massive mainstream success to more oblique, sometimes seemingly perverse, experiments in the last decade.

Joni was in town for only four numbers at the Bread and Roses Festival. She did "Coyote," accompanied by B.B. King, and then accompanied

him on an unlikely duet of "The Thrill Is Gone." When he was gone, she introduced two new numbers on solo electric new numbers on solo electric guitar. There was a taste of HEJIRA's turn to folkie simplicity; there were the bizarre chords and atonal shadings championed during her collaborations with Charles Mingus. It was remarkably affecting.

affecting.

Joni was a gifted waif with an acoustic guitar when she appeared on the scene. She mastered the confessional folkie genre with BLUE and scaled the sheen of LA rock with COURT AND SPARK. THE HISSING OF SUMMER LAWNS took her beyond the simple song forms she had mastered into more abstract meditations: a David Hockney painting with Lambert, Hendricks and Ross scatting almost madly in the elegant heat. Critics were doubtful, and she returned to the fold with HEJI-RA. DON JUAN'S RECK-LESS DAUGHTER went out to the frings with a vengeance, and "Paprika Plains" from that lp caught the unlikely ear of jazz bassist and composer Charles Mingus. Last year's lp was a tour de force and a failure. That she had completed

the collaborations at all was awesome, but the songs sounded stiff and uncomfort-

By her own admission Mitchell has been trying to avoid the pigeonholes of creative stagnation, without rejecting her past. Her new lp, SHADOWS AND LIGHT, charts that struggle. It is a double live set from her last tour — with Weather Report's bassist Jaco Pastourious, and brilliant young guitarist Pat Metheny, his keyboard player Lyle Mays, and the accapello masters The Persuasions along. The material reaches back to THE HISSING and grabs a couple of tunes from each subsequent lp, wisely avoiding the excesses of DON JUAN'S. The Mingus material opens up in this setting and the title cut, with the Persuasions providing the melodic frame, becomes almost religiously evocative — its fine art images moaning off the street corner. When Joni tries to take to the corner herself, on a version of Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers' "Why Do Fools Fall In Love," her introduction sounds like Julia Childs, and her singing is irksomely prim and tight — completely missing the gentle wings of Frankie's falsetto. I'm glad she loves the song, and it's such a great one you could fail to notice — on the first listening. ell has been trying to avoid the pigeonholes of creative stagna-

The most telling cut is her reprise of "Woodstock." She turns the brash rock anthem into a bittersweet jazz ballad with a toughly poignant regret shared by many listeners. Appropriately it closes the lp.

David Crosby once confided in an interview, "Take my word for it, when it comes to megalomania, Mussolini had nothing on Joni Mitchell." William Burroughs, the writer, once remarked, "The truly great artists are the ones who will do some of the worst work. They're the ones who will take the risks. A mediocre artist is dependably mediocre."

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"The Saints of Father Lyons," written, directed, and performed by John O'Keefe, is first on the bill. It is a solo piece about a priest possessed by saints who, despite his rantings about the soul and the spirit, still fears death. O'Keefe has a remarkably flexible voice and uses it to convincingly cross in and out of sanity as we know it as he explores his faith in the words of God. What might have been a session of excessive raving in the hands of a lesser performer becomes an intiguing, often captivating exploration of one man's mind in the hands of O'Keefe who,

pers at a disco, but most so labeled productions offer a worse headache than a \$3 bottle of Butyl. The Magic The-

atte has changed all that with two performance pieces that are innovative without being outrageous, and I recommend the evening to anyone interest-ed in something markedly dif-



Magic Theatre's world premiere of FRANKIE AND JOHNNIE: A TRUE STORY, THROUGH December 14.

(Continued on next page)

Magic Theatre

(Continued from Page 28)
even in the midst of insanity,
manages to connect meaning
with madness.

More controversial and more obscure is "Frankie and Johnnie: A True Story," a performance piece by Winston Tong and Bruce Geduldig. Set to thirteen Billie Holliday tunes and performed in a multimedia milleu of film, tape, puppets and live action, this piece examines the legend of Frankie and Johnnie from the point of view of both lovers being parts of one schizophrenic individual. The madness is more difficult to follow here, and it would seem to me a mistake to try to hold on to the story line. Viewers would fare better, I think, from getting involved in Geduldig's vivid film images and in Tong's masterful puppet manipulations.

It is important in confronting such innovations as these to let go completely of the habitual expectations and traditional mindsets we carry into theaters and accept these performance pieces as one-of-a-kind radical departures from theatrical norms. If you are not willing to do so, you may find yourself bored or even angered. If you're looking for something out of the ordinary, performed with bizarre lyricism, "The Saints of Father Lyons" and "Frankie and Johnnie" will be on view through December 14 at Building D, Fort Mason. Call 441-8001 for performance schedule and reservations.

Mark Topkin

New Gay Paperback Line

Alternate Publishing, publishers of *Drummer*, *Alternate* and *Mach* magazines have announced a line of original trade paperbacks to begin this year with the November release of John Preston's novel, "Mr. Benson."

"Mr. Benson," described by Michael Denneny (author of "Lovers: The Story of Two Men") as "A definitive pornographic novel that transcends its genre," is a realistic and highly-charged look at the least understood of all sexual relationships — sado-masochism.

John Preston, a former editor of *The Advocate*, is a frequent contributor to Alternate Publishing's magazines, and is the East Coast Editor of *Drummer*. The novel, as a work in progress, was serialized in *Drummer* during 1979-80.

Alternate Publishing's second trade paperback will be Daniel Curzon's "From Violent Men." Daniel Curzon, author of "Something You Do in the Dark," "Among the Carnivores," and a number of other well-known works, has written, in "From Violent Men," his most brutal and shocking look at the killing of gay men. A radical departure from his previous novels, "From Violent Men" broadens Curzon's literary scope by leaps and bounds. Release is scheduled for December 1980.

Alternate Publishing's Spring 1981 list will be released in December of this year.

Sweet Lips Sez

A Top Turkey Time

by Dick Walters

Tony (Nina) Nemger . . . artist in stained glass presents a special showing of his "Stained Glass Art" Nov. 22-25 at Gilmore's, Hyde & California very interesting exhibit, so don't miss.

Have you met Spencer, the new bartender at the Yacht Club on Polk Street . . . seems as if there has been an upheaval in employees at the Yacht Club . . . but "Helen" and Rome are still there.

Pat Grace's O'Hair Salon . . . 3414 22nd Street, 647-5995. A great place for fantastic hair styling for men and women.

Need turkey feathers??? Exotic Feather Creations, 1550 California Street, for wild, wild hat bands, etc.

Happy Thanksgiving to one and all of the many readers of this column and the B.A.R. from the staff.

Bill Tolan's Omelette and Hamburger House is now located in 501's (1035 Post St.) and besides, you have Stark on the plank during the day . . . you should see the names that Bill has given is omelettes.

Devil's Herd out on Valencia now has Wayne (Puke #1) Lang on the plank and doing a great job . . . you are an asset to the bar, Wayne, so keep up the good work.

Sorry I missed your 14th anniversary, Totie and Al; but, as usual, my invitation must have blown off the porch... remember to have many, many more of them. All mail delivered to the B.A.R. office I do receive; right, Paul Lorch, our congenial editor? (ED. NOTE: Maybe Marcus grabbed it?) Remember that Totie and Al are both on the plank at Googie's on Geary, but not at the same time for obvious reasons.

Mavis was at Chas. Pierce's show at the Plush Room the other evening, and they should have called it the Mavis Show, as she was almost as good as Charles . . . but good old Charles did get the best (?) of Mavis

Thank you, Carrot Top, who is now safely back in Hawaii for the information that there is a bar on Market Street named after Reba called The Old Crow. Love it.

Hal (Olive) Ossman and Darryl Glied (White Swallow) are both in Hawaii on vacation, and you can be sure that when they return you'll be hearing for a month about their exploits in the islands . . . especially Darryl's . . Hi, Jimmy and Russ; hope you and staff and customers of the White Swallow do have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Yes, that is Gene Rosenthal and John Anamitti (?) that you see so buddy, buddy at the Mint these evenings. John is currently on vacation in the islands, also . . . have you tried the Mint's Sunday brunch yet? It is delicious and the price is right. Good crowds of people too.

The Pines & Co. present this weekend — Friday, Saturday & Sunday — the Nob Hill Players' production of CINDER-ELLA starring Richard Connelly, Roy Bell III, Pat Clifford, Timm Pennel, Kyle, Bult, Kevin Hannah, and, of course, our own "Thank you again" Jimmy Queen. Reservations: 885-2852 and they are going fast, as this is going to be the "sleeper" hit of the year . . . maybe.

Better make your Thanks-giving Dinner reservations now, as most restaurants are getting solidly booked . . . look for the ads in this issue of B.A.R.

The management (Luscious Lorelei) and staff of the N'Touch wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving Day and want to see you all come on down and dance from 4pm on Thanksgiving Day.

The management and staff of Gilmore's (California & Hyde) invite you to attend Sweet Lips 58th (?) Birthday Party on Monday, Dec. 1, from 4-8pm. There will be lavish entertainment so come on down and have a toast with me . . . yes, I am going to fall off the wagon that day but will go back on the next day, a work

Paul Duncan can be seen on the plank of the Hob Nob from 6-10am these days while "Helen" is taking a well-earned and deserved vacation (after working with Greta). Drop on down and say hi to Paul at the Hob Nob at Geary and Leavenworth . . . hi, Randy honey.

JOIN UNITED WAY

in its campaign drive now through December 31

You can direct your contribution to Gay Rights Advocates, Legal Foundation for Personal Liberties, Operation Concern, or the East Bay's Pacific Center by using the United Way Donor Option Card.

Please see your representative today.

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Gay Pieces

From the Magazines

Readers have sent in copies of two recent articles in major national publications on Gay life.

The first appeared in June and July issues of New York City's Village Voice, a weekly newspaper. The two-part tract, entitled "The Politics of Liberation" by bi-sexual Richard Goldstein, is a loosely held-together summary of the latest in Gay Rights/Gay Liberation politics. The second part is called "The Future of Gay Liberation" subtitled "Sex on Parole." Much of the assessment is from a New York City perspective — where possibly many of the problems of the Gay movement are exacerbated. Goldstein presents an array of bits and pieces with little synthesis. Still perhaps fragmentation is the essence of this most new sociological phenomenon. Without either an enshrined agenda or hierarchy what else is to be expected.

The second major article is a 13-page mildly homophobic reminiscence of a decidedly heterosexual Midge Decter of her years at Fire Island Pines. The piece, entitled "The Boys on the Beach," appeared in September's Commentary magazine. Decter, referred to as a frequent contributor to journals and an author, looks back over four summers she

and her young family spent on Fire Island in the early 60's. Part of the Manhattan literati, Decter and family were amused at the passing flesh and fantasy — discriminated against and generally disgusted. The tone is intelligent, liberal patronizing; the unspoken theme is that there's not too much Gaiety in the Gay life.

After ten years of Gay Liberation Decter looks at homosexuals 1980. Drawing from Edmund White's "States of Desire" (an odyssey through Gay America) and last spring's CBS docudrama "Gay Power, Gay Politics," Decter concludes the new ingredients are drugs, sado-masochism, and suicide. These she advances are the hallmarks of the "advanced" homosexual.

She writes, "But to judge from all their current forms of self-directed violence, their new dispensation has brought them anything but relief on a number of other scores."

In a specific reference to San Francisco she concludes, "The freedom to rise, it would seem, is also very much the freedom to sink."

Decter has never gotten over being a spurned 'woman after 20 years her rejection/resentment are vented. All the same it's a good-read.





Mr. Marcus

This Too Shall Pass

Southern Scandals

For the past 14 years, the California Motor Club (CMC) has staged what has become one of the biggest functions in this town — the Carnival. Two Sundays ago, through no fault of their own, this hedonistic annual fling was marred by the intrusion of municipal authorities who in all their infinite wisdom ruled that there could be no darking a game of change of the sunday. ruled that there could be no dancing, no games of chance, and little else but to mill about and greet old friends, have a few cocktails, and hopefully meet the fabled knight in armor. It has been stated that there are a couple of suspects who initiated this action, but no

positive proof has been estabpositive proof has been established. In spite of the foregoing, the Carnival did indeed attract another record crowd not only from this city but from throughout California, several other states and several foreign countries from Australia to London. It is hoped that the despotic character who rabble-roused and orchestrated this dastardly series of events is put on notice. and orchestrated this dastardly series of events is put on notice that not hundreds, but thousands of men are fed up with his antics; that his sick and troubled mind trips are despicable and divisive, and that what goes around comes around. As with all tyrants and evil doers,

this too shall pass. From where I'm standing, it cannot come too soon. Congratulations to John Hyer, sponsored by the TRENCH, now holder of the title, Mr. Carnival XV. You are very HOT man.

The parties clustered around the Carnival fared a little better than the main event. Trocadero Transfer bulged with hot leather men who came to see the 14 absolutely magnificent men who competed for the Mr. Western Drummer title on Friday, Nov. 7. The talented staff of the Troc outdid themselves by transforming the premises into a realistic looking trucker lot including cyclone fences and garage equipment. The winner, Dean Goldie, was ecstatic to learn he had garnered the votes of all in attendance and win a humongous array of prizes, including \$500 in cash. The 23-year old Dean was sponsored by William Roderick Associates and received a



ANIZATIONS

(L to R, standing) MC and Mr. Western Drum ner Contest winners: MR. western Drummer Contests witners: (L. to A., standing) MC and B.A.R. columnist Mr. Marcus flanked by winner Dean, Norm; (seated) David, Paul (second runner-up), and first runner-up Mike at the Trocadero Transfer. (Photo by Robert Pruzan)

after midnight when the same asshole who jinxed the Carnival made another strident Carnival made another strident bid with his sick mind and caused the ABC to raid the leathery gathering. On Saturday afternoon, the Rainbow M/C hosted a few hundred macho-ese types at the Folsom St. Club for their 1st Annual Fetish Festival (grungeey) and the chi-chi buffet at the BRIG afterward. It was a weekend to remember, including the trillion dollars in play money that went for the slaves at a bath house I will not name after the carnival. No slaves at a bath house I will not name after the carnival. No matter how hard SHE tried, the SICKIE on GEARY did not dampen the spirits of ANY-ONE. Rather she re-confirmed once again that everything he does is counterproductive to himself, his pseudo-religious role, and the entire Gay community. But this, too, shall pass. Amen.

CROCK-TALES FOR YOU

Proud to scoop that the manager of the new SF Eagle is Patrick Batt, the former manager of Chicago's Gold Coast. Pat brings his considerable expertise in the leather world to the 12th & Harrison location which plans to open in midJanuary. While everyone claims to be already hired at the Eagle, only one employee besides Pat is assured a job, so y'all quit snowin' me — the y'all quit snowin' me — the Shadow knows! . . . Biggest topic of conversation around the Miracle Mile these days?: Why the stunning surprise by the entire staff of the AMBUSH

on Halloween, of course. If you missed visiting the Ambush on Halloween, you missed seeing South of Market's Tuxedo Junction, for everyone on staff and even some of the customers eschewed leather and and even some of the custom-ers eschewed leather and denim and appeared resplen-dent in tuxedos. Quipped one gasping onlooker: "Did'ja ever see so many horny penguins in your life under one roof?" — the Ayatollah Kerry ALWAYS ogts his way. . . I may as well your life under one roof?"—the Ayatollah Kerry ALWAYS gets his way . . . I may as well tell you there is absolutely no truth to the rumor that DJ's on Castro is changing its name to HONKIES; whoever started THAT rumor obviously doesn't know Ron Holmes! . . . Gay-ly Forward! Since 1981 is also Chinese Year 4679, be advised that 4679 is also the Year of the Cock — can't wait to see the puns on that one either . . Those busy, busy dudes in The 15 Association are jubilant now that they have their own club house and will be holding a party there on December 20 — hope you're lucky enough to get invited from 9PM to 9AM. This should be THE party of the month. Congratulations guys . . . Remember I told you about the terrific new tape-daddy CHRYSLER who has hit town like a bomb? Well, you can see and hear him spinning the vinyl at Castro's only L/L bar, CASTRO STATION, almost every night; mean-while, orders for his musical almost every night; mean-while, orders for his musical tapes are mounting — If the tape's not by CHRYSLER, it just ain't music! . . If you're hankering for a change of scenery this weekend, you might truck up to the Russian River vou might



CMC Carnival winner John Hyer, sponsored by The Trench. No The Trench shares the big moment. (Photo by Bob Pruzan)



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tumultuous ovation when he was proclaimed the winner. Runners-up Mike, sponsored by the LA Pleasure Chest (1st), Paul, sponsored by the JUNGLE-LA, David, sponsored by SF Trucking, and Renee, sponsored by Handball Express, all received cash prizes as well as countless merchandise and memberships. prizes as well as countess mer-chandise and memberships. Deejay Craig Morley had the crowd worked up into a frenzy and the party flourished 'til

Folsom Fantasies' Pre-Tooling Party at the Music Hall was going full blast until a little

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BOB'S BAZAAR NOV. 20, 1980



And from the dashing Rick

And from the dashing Ki Leathers: A young bottom of Folsom Street's legion Once picked up a touring Norwegion Oh he got fucked, of course But the not-so-cleon Norse Left him clop in his brown fuzzy region.

See you at all the "fistivities" around the campus.

MISTER MARCUS

ED. NOTE: Mr. Marcus, you might give Mr. Leathers a pointer or two on meter. . .

Auction for Seniors

On Sunday, Nov. 23, Leona and Empress VIII Maxine will hold a plant auction. Proceeds will go to MCC's Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner. The auction will run from 2 to 6pm at the New Bell Saloon, 1203 Polk Street.

The New Bell will accept either entries or cash donations for the seniors' dinner.

Xmas Drive for Seniors

The Gay community and the SF Park and Recreation Friends of the Park are spon-soring "Christmas Revisited," a Christmas celebration for Tenderloin senior citizens

Between November 20 and December 20 a drive will take place to collect gifts. The gifts will be distributed on Christmas Day throughout the Tenderloin. Volunteers to distribute and gift-givers are needed. Call Irene at 285-0758 for details.

where all the Gay bars and other establishments are having a Turkey Trot celebration en masse. Say hi to Robert at the Rusty Nail for me if you DO go.

DOT, DOT, DOT, DISH

DOT, DOT, DOT, DISH

Hot new album has hit the stores called SLEEZE ATTACK by some of the area's hottest but unnamed musicians. The title song is catchy, and forgive me for being astute, but I DO recognize the talented SUNSHINE on the piano. Sleeze Attack is available at the Cave, the Trench, the Ramrod, MR. S. Products, and at the Headquarters—you'll love this rather, er, esoeric musical production... Because the wind blew a flyer in my face, I found out there's a new place at 161 Sixth Street (in the heart of Muscatel Meadows) called the TERROR HOUSE; I don't know if it's supposed to be a bath house, a bar, or a pussy palace, but the flyer says no memberships and to come early (no premature ejaculations)... Q: What do they call a truckload of dildos? A: Toys for Twats. Onward! Couple of issues ago I plugged the new motorcycle repair shop called TOURING GEAR UNLIMITED at 229 Seventh St., and gave you the wrong phone number, so my apologies to Stephan Price, the hunky dude who does the repair work. The correct number is 861-4856. They also have leather gear and real neat uniform clothing — you WILL check it out.

If you missed the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps concerts at the new Symphony Hall two weekends ago, allow me to say that it was one of the most inspiring performances of ANY musical conglomeration I have ever witnessed. Jon Sims, you are a genius. You would have been most proud of your Gay brothers witnessing this spectacular event. Loved the concert. Hated the new symphony hall. Hated the new symphony hall.

Thanks for all your cards and letters regarding the underground hole/room in the Miracle Mile area. Clue #3: The room is NOT in the street, but rather on the sidewalk. It is 10x12 ft., dry, and right next to a cyclone fence. Got that? Recapping: It's South of Folsom Street, between 6th & 12th Streets, at least a block away from ANY bar, and near a school. The final clue next issue will give you the exact latitude and longitude and if you can't find it after that, highers to you!

Limericks for your digestion, from handsome Richard Well-

A croftsmon who weoves in Khortoum Lures innocent boys to his room Consumed by that fever This Sudonses weover Hos been nicknamed the Fruit of the Loom.

7000 Gays have bought life-saving whistles. Have you?

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No dancing, no gambling, no hi-jinks at the 1980 CMC Carnival — thanks to the SFPD and thanks to the amous informer. (Photo by Robert Pruzan)

CINEMATTACHINE

NOT THE BIGGEST... BUT CLOSE TO THE BEST!

Cinemattachine Private Club Cinema — operates Noon to Midnight daily, live stage "Gay Happening" nightly at 9.

New 3-hour hardcore film program every Thursday on main screen, plus different weekly 4-hour closed circuit TV program.

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Here is a series of three erotic film programs on an incredible capability which only a few men can accomplish, though many admit they have tried!

Altogether, in these three 60-minute and entirely different presentations, you'll see some 25 different dudes do their own thing — some just lick it, others really suck! These are exclusive films, and have been shown in no other cinema. But the programs are not all devoted to auto-fellatio. There are two hours of other new and heavy duos and group action films on each of these three upcoming programs, plus closed circuit TV action, and a live show on stage each night promptly at 9

All Different - Plus Other Films

NOVEMBER 20-26

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Jack Hacker & Mickey Squires

in

THE COME ON

Mark Rutter & Hank Ditmar

SHACK UP

O-FELLATIO - Part 3

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Porn Corner -

Screening Room & Cinemattachine

Karr

It's hard to believe that the Screening Room on Jones St. has only been "Gay" since August. They've presented so many movies in this short time that I already treat the theater and its manager, Frank Ross, as established members of the community. Ross is making the theater a more comfortable place daily. The lobby now hospitably proffers free coffee and an array of mammoth vending machines. They take up half the space, but their colored lights shed a warm red glow across the room. It's hard to believe that the

Inside the theater there's a slightly different story, and it might be you seeing red at the frequently mixed-bag of films. The secondary features are generally old friends, and most of the first run films have been excellent. The Screening Room regularly taps a French film source, and these imports are a markedly varied commodity. TOP MAN, the current feature, is not among the most

this

OFF with

5

successful.

TOP MAN is memorable mostly for its shredded plot incongruities and its sense of humor. It's difficult to tell whether the humor is intentional or not. I'd guess not. Things just worked out that

Arriving in New York, our French hero finds himself in the midst of auditions for a Gay porno. Although he's not Gay (It seems to me I've heard that song before.), he's befriended by Michele, a Frenchman who is Gay. Michele boards, and then blows, the homeless Frenchy, who, of course, begins to like it. "C'est bon." He's soon working for the pornomakers, and after a dozen disjointed non-adventures, he comes out.

The humor came from the dubbing, all the dialogue having been added by one actor. He can't be bothered to change

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his voice for different characters. Even funnier is that nobody moves their mouths to talk. Obviously, hardly any dialogue was filmed. So what we have is the first porn-movie entirely cast with ventriloquists.

I make it sound more enter-taining than it is, though; and the few good sex scenes can't liven up the movie. At 86 min-utes it's a long haul, and when Frenchy and Michele trot off to the beach I wished they would swim back to France and get way out of camera range. But no, they have a slow-motion frolic in the surf for some aim-less moments before the much desired "fin" rolled across the screen. I make it sound more enterscreen.

is the reliable MORNING Co-feature TUESDAY WORKOUT. WORNOUT. It's measured pace is more professional than exciting, but it's a good enough movie. Joe Markham's show scene steams up the lenses, but any room with Joe is a steamy room. The wrestling match between two jockstrap-clad boys is the high point; I've always wanted to see it in slow motion. The obligatory final orgy sometimes feels like slow motion, but it's going at regular speed. It's just a bit lackadaisical. TUESDAY MORNING WORKOUT won't let you down, but only half of it will pump you up. lt's measured pump you up.

The Screening Room comes somewhat to life for the stage show. These boys are good looking, and even the nonpro's try hard. A tall and sleek black boy did some intriguing things with several yards of leather thong and was followed by my favorite, a short, butch cowboy with black hair. Although a Village Person clone in lineman drag needs to retire, he was followed by a real star. In unaffected clone attire, this boy worked the hardest and put out the most charisma of the day. He also had a drivine body, muscular and sculpted, the day. He also had a divine body, muscular and sculpted, and a surprisingly masculine approach to the basically feminine act of strip tease. The Screening Room lavished seven boys on the audience altogether, and an erect finale did not go unappreciated.

Most exciting event of the Most exciting event of the day, though, was the coming attraction for WANTED, due to open after Thanksgiving. With Al Parker and Will Seegers starring, and Duff Paxton and Sam Benson supporting, I know just for what I'll be giving thanks. The trailer advised that if we didn't see another movie all year we should see WANTED. For once I was wont to agree with an ad.

CINEMATTACHINE

OFF with this

Meanwhile, the Cinematta-chine on Ellis Street is still going strong. They attract a friendly, less inhibited and certainly more loyal crowd than any other theater around. The sexuality in this place is rarely furtive, and they do not under-stand covert. The audience vies with the live performers, a stand covert. The audience vies with the live performers, a nightly specialty, for high marks in performance arts. The movies have been excellent, too. I saw NOON EVERY TUESDAY, the best Colt AY, the

©6

WITH RIMLESS GLASSES

MParker in movie I've ever seen, and Bruno and Clint Lockner in Colt's LOCKNER'S KEY. My readers know of my veneration of Bruno. In my house is a small Bruno shrine, candles burning in front of a Bruno icon. I could write the book on Brunography, and in this new movie he didn't let me down. He's beefier than ever before, and this mass forces him to move with the unflappable resoluteness of an armadillo. This built-in slow motion makes it easier to watch his every This built-in slow motion makes it easier to watch his every muscle flex, each protruding vein pulsate. It's Lockner who's becoming a disappointment. He hasn't grown or changed since his initial appearance. Despite his good looks and memorable member, I must say that the thrill is nearly gone. It's too easy to see through his

00000

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000000000

Will Seagers in a pensive mood from WANTED. "We're ld see WANTED" didn't see another movie all year, we sh the Screening Room



Al Parker in WANTED. act, to deflate the balloon of his

fantasy without even wanting to. I'd like to see him rely less on his props and actually do more. But Bruno inspires him, and LOCKNER'S KEY can be counted a complete success A unique part of this month's A unique part of this month's program is a one-hour series of auto-fellatio films, not seen in any other theater. The last week of the month features two more new Colt movies, plus a new auto-fellatio hour, and more live and explicit performers

The stage show and Colt movies were too much for me. I lost my professional sangfroid and did some considerable partying. I could say I stuck my foot in my mouth, but that wouldn't be quite correct. It was a different appendage. that wouldn't be quite correct. It was a different appendage, and belonged to someone else. When I left the Cinemattachine the clerk called out, "Are you going to give us a good review?" I laughed. "If I do," I confessed and pointed to my new friend, "I'm going to have to give him one, too."

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Shilts Interview (Continued from Page 10)

SHILTS: He felt it was inevitable that the first major Gay leader that came along would get knocked off — he realized that just from the practical point of view — and what's uncanny, he said in his haste that he was going to get shot in the head. He said, "Let the bullets tear into my brain." He didn't say "if I get hit by a bus, appoint these people." He said, "When the bullets go through the brain." There was something going on there the last couple weeks of his life. He closed down his camera store, consolidated all of his loans, turned in his leased car three days before he got killed. He tied up all the loose ends in his life. Someone said, "Let's talk about when you run for mayor in 1984." He just looked at him and said, "I'm not going to be around then."

DT: Do you think he might have gotten threatening notes:

SHILTS: Yes, I've been going through his personal files. Yeah, he got notes. Some people even signed them; some guy here in S.F. was always writing saying, "Maybe somebody's going to take a pot shot at you, you GD cocksucker." He got lots of threatening notes.

DT: All along? How early?

SHILTS: At least from 1975. Anybody who's in the public. I get threatening notes. I never had anyone say they were going to kill me. You just get them. That's what inspired him; he got some bad telephone threats after he got elected.

SHILTS: He made four tapes — ten days after he got elected to the Board of Supervisors — where he names his successors — what he considered to be good successors. There were people he did not want to get into power, and those wishes were honored.

You could write that in a book and no one would believe it that a slain politician named his own successors. That just doesn't happen; but it happene here because Harvey Milk's legend was so powerful. Harvey remained a powerful person in this city Aiter his death—at least on the night of the riots.

DT: Do you think that it was not an accident that Dan White killed Harvey

SHILTS: Oh, no. It's a travesty to the truth that the local media in S.F. portrayed the shooting of Harvey as some little minor political grudge — that is absolutely bullshit. That was a political murder based to a large extent on the fact that Harvey was a queer and Harvey kept Dan White from being elected to the Board of Supervisors. And I think that if Dan White cannot handle the notion that a Gay politician representing the interests of the community had thwarted his political power — I think that is a total affront to all of his background — shooting H.M. led to the temper that made him want to kill people in the first plant. ground — shoo in the first place

DT: And maybe the mayor was caught in there too?

SHILTS: Yes. Often we hear the mayor first, Harvey second, as if the mayor refused him and then Harvey.

He knew it was H. M. that kept him off the Board of Supervisors. Harvey told Moscone if you reappoint Dan White, I'll make sure you don't get re-elected dog catcher — and that's politics. White was the most anti-Gay member of the Board of Supervisors. Moscone was going to run for re-election the next year; he had no business putting an anti-Gay person on the Board of Supervisors when he expected to win with Gay votes. And that's politics and Harvey; it's a nasty game sometime, but you don't shoot somebody.

DT: Do you think that sex has ever entered into politics before?

SHILTS: Sex is in politics all the time, but not in terms of sexual orientation

DT: So this is kind of a first?

SHILTS: I'm sure politicians have killed each other over girlfriends, but this was the first Gay murder in modern politics. We haven't had Gay public officials yet - I think it's amazing that we haven't had more public Gay people killed.

DT: Tell me, how widespread nationally is the knowledge that Harvey Milk was a Gay politician that he was killed? What effect will your book have on the mass of America? What do they know now and what do you hope to tell them?

SHILTS: People are vaguely aware that there is a Gay Supervisor that got SHILTS: People are vaguely aware that nitret is a Gay Supervisor intal soft killed or a Gay City Councilman with the Mayor — that's sort of out of people's minds. The mass of America, they heard about that and they also know that there is this whole Gay thing that happened in S.F. in the late 70's but the whole story has never gotten out and the straight media will do absolutely nothing to get the truth out about this.

Hopefully this book, and the press that surrounds both the book and the movie, for the first time will give them an insight into what we're trying to accomplish—if nothing more than to live our lives with a degree of dignity—and to let everyone live to their own best potentials.

DT: In terms of threat — giving the idea that a community has formed with idea that a community has formed with political clout, the reaction in the CBS documentary seemed to be that Feinstein was put in office by the Gay community — through power plays. How stem was put in office by the Gay com-munity — through power plays. How much of this is true, and do we have to fear that people will interpret this Gay emergence as political and economic clout and a threat to them in their own city?

city?

SHILTS: What we have to fear is that they think it's not a threat — we have to fear that they think we're powerless because if we're powerful, we've got a lot going for us than if we're just limp-wristed little sissies who say, "Hey, we're not trying to gain power." I didn't have any problem with the part of the CBS documentary which depicted us as powerful because we did indeed swing the Mayor's race last year and we are one in four voters in this city. We are the most significant power bloc in San Francisco, and as the years go by we are going to become major power blocs in every major city — and that's important. We shouldn't downplay the fact that we want power.

To be continued. .

ports

Tennis Tournament

Mark Brown

Jake Reid and Lupe Vasquez take the titles in the first annual tournament of the Gay Tennis Federation held Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 15 and 16, at the Golden Gate Tennis Complex.

Although the tournament was scheduled with crossed fingers with the ever-looming prospect of bad weather, mother nature was most kind in giving the Gay community a warm, sunny, wind-free week-end. The 30 GTF members who participated in the event exhibited some of the best ten-nis seen this year in San nis seen Francisco.

Jake Reid won the championship division by overcoming Dean Bauer in an exciting match with many hard hit shots and accurate placements executed by both players. Score: 6-4, 6-4.

Terry Chang took Lupe Vasquez to three sets in the conso-lation division before succumb-ing to Vasquez's endurance and determination. Score: 6-3, 4-6, 6-1.

The membership of the Gay The membership of the Gay Tennis Federation has now over 60 players on the challenge ladder. New members are encouraged to join, especially women. Contact GTF secretary Tom Kelly at Community Rentals, 552-9595. The next Federation meeting will be held at Sutter's Mill, 30 Kearny, on Thursday, December 11, at 7PM.

G.S.L. TO MEET

San Francisco's Gay Softball League will hold its annual meeting this Tuesday, Nov. 25, at the 527 Club, 527 Bryant Street, at 7PM.

All league members are en-couraged to attend this impor-tant meeting. On the agenda is the election of officers for the 1981 season, the annual treas-urer's report, the report on the Gay World Series, and new

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husiness

The Gay Softball League is headed into its fourth year with the 1981 champion being given the dubious privilege of representing San Francisco in the Gay World Series to be held in Toronto, Canada.

C.S.L. ELECTS OFFICERS

At its annual meeting the Community Softball League elected Bill Chapman Commissioner for the 1981 season. Bill has been active in the league for three years and managed the Tenderloin Tigers this year. Bill won out over Roger Soto, this year's Assistant Commissioner and Statistician, in a hard-fought battle. It took three ballots before the league managers could decide their leader for next year. Steve King is the new Assistant Commissioner; George Zepp was re-elected George Zepp was re-elected Secretary; and this year's Com-missioner, Duke Joyce, was given the Treasurer's job.

The C.S.L. has ten of this year's sixteen teams returning

for 1981 — Ambush, Cinch, Film People, Mint, Music Hall, On The Mark, Rainbow Cattle Co., Super Sports, Tenderloin and defending champion Village. Voted into the league was the Marathon Ballroom was the Marathon Ballroom

GAY OLYMPICS

The International Gay Olympic Association will hold its next meeting Wednesday, Dec. 1, 8PM at 141 Albion. You are most welcome to attend.

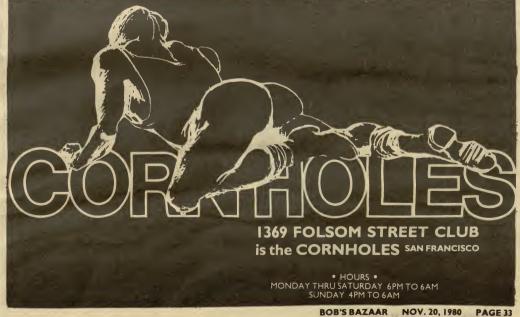
PENDULUM HOLDS BOWLING LEAD

In the Wednesday Night Tavern Guild Bowling League at Park Bowl, we find the Pendulum holding onto their one game lead after taking three games from Always Tan. Tied for the second spot are the DeLuxe and White Swallow, who battled it out this past week with the DeLuxe taking two out of three. two out of three.

In other games, Blue Balls took three from Alvin's; Play With It came out on top in all three games with Ambush Leather; and On The Mark overpowered Pure Trash for three.

Individual honors went to Les Gundel of De Luxe with a high game of 246. Ralph Bren-ner of Play With It came in with a 245. Aubrey Palmer (On The Mark) with games of 235, 233





and 201 took over the season high series lead with a 671. Ralph Brenner moved into sec-ond place with his 669 series.

LEAGUE STANDINGS

Pendulum	20	- 7
DeLuxe	19	- 8
White Swallow	19	- 8
Pin Ups	18	- 9
Park Bowl	17	- 10
Grady's	161/	2-101/2
Coming Soon	15	- 12
Unmentionables	15	-12
Twin Peaks	15	-12
Ambush	14	- 13
Play With It	13	- 14
On The Mark	13	- 14
The Tight Ends	13	- 14
Wooden Horse	12	-15
Badlands	111/	2-151/2
Arena Guards	11	- 16
Always Tan	10	-17
The Ted E. Bears	10	-17
Pure Trash	9	- 18
Alvin's	9	-18
Blue Balls	9	-18
Ambush Leather	8	-19

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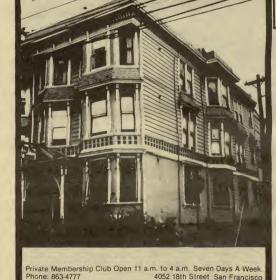
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